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## CHEMISTRY AND THE WAR

[BY F. ROWLINSON.]

[The study of chemistry is so closely bound up with success in industry, war, and the arrestment of disease that it is essential to a wealthy, healthy, and peaceful nation.—SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY.]

Much has been said about the lack of intelligent appreciation on the part of our legislators, military authorities, and manufacturers of the supreme importance of scientific knowledge and method. Much more might be said; but this is not a time for reiteration—rather is it an occasion to indicate and to emphasise the manifold activities of the trained chemist in connection with the war. Handicapped by the conservatism of our capitalists, impeded by the estrangement between science and commerce, the chemical branch of technology has striven hard, and until recently vainly, for a recognition of its services to the country. The army, the navy, the civil population—the whole nation, in short—owe a debt of consideration to the chemist possessed of the requisite knowledge and creative skill successfully to combat a nation whose undivided attention has been given to the advancement of this branch of industrial science. From coal, from oil, from cotton, from wood, the patient chemist extracts materials which serve him as sources of the modern explosives, of beautiful dyes, of delicate flavourings, and of pain-destroying drugs to ease the sick and the wounded. The Government has not come to recognise the absolute dependence of our military, naval, and industrial resources upon the chemist, and now more use of chemical "advice" is being made by them than has hitherto been conceived possible.

In 1856 Sir William H. Perkin, an Englishman, then only a youth of 18, discovered a process for the production of a mauve dye from aniline. This discovery was the foundation of one of the most famous industries of the world—the coal-tar derivative industry. Year by year it has become more important and more profitable, and the industry, founded by an Englishman, and first established in England, is now carried on principally in Germany. Our munitions factories were too careless or short-sighted even to trouble to maintain the start given to them—a start in itself worth millions of pounds. Furthermore, Germany, eager for war and spoiling for world power, seized upon, encouraged, and perfected an industry which was unique in being highly profitable in peace and of vital importance in time of war. Germany realised that the coal-tar industry is the basis of synthetic chemistry, and that the whole future of chemistry is comprised in synthesis. Coal, heated in a closed retort, yields gas, tar, and coke. Coke is used in millions of tons in connection with metallurgical processes, particularly in the manufacture of iron and steel. The distillation of the tar yields light and heavy oils. These, together with benzol extracted from the gas, form the foundations of the derivative industry. They yield anthracene, naphthalene, benzene, toluene, phenol, the sources respectively of alizarin, synthetic indigo, the aniline dyes, and of vital importance nowadays, the high explosives. From a dozen direct derivatives we get perhaps a hundred intermediate products. To the fine manufactured article there is practically no limit. As the outbreak of the war there were no less than one thousand individual coal-tar colours, each a definite chemical compound and not a mixture. Of the fine chemicals used in photography and medicine there were almost as many. We have mentioned toluene and phenol as examples of coal-tar products used to make high explosives. By the action of various acids upon these two, T.N.T. and lyddite respectively are made. Benzol, besides its use as a source of benzene and toluene, has become a formidable rival, as a cheaper substitute for petrol, and the benzol industry in this country has increased at an incredible speed within the last few years. Ammonia salts are also coal distillation products indispensable to alkali manufacturers and to farmers.

The raw materials for the production of propellants, a second class of explosives used in the war, are derived from the soapworks, from cotton, and from wood. Glycerine, cotton, and acetone (a distillation product of wood, as benzene and coal) are manufactured, and the provision of the explosives chemist, into nitro-glycerine and gun-cotton, and finally into gelignite, cordite, and dynamite. It is a terribly exacting work, this of the explosives chemist. A false step, a hasty movement, a careless gesture even, and irreparable damage to life and property is wrought. It is no work for fools; the chemist takes his life into his hands when he investigates the mighty forces latent in materials of the most innocent nature. Both disruptive and propellant explosives are "tailor" compounds, and need for their manufacture sulphuric and nitric acids. These same acids are also required in the coal-tar derivative industry. In this fact lies at once the secret of Germany's preparedness for war and the difficulty of successfully establishing the coal-tar dye industry in this country until the end of the war. Thus Germany will have ample opportunities for "dumping" before we make our belated efforts. Steps must be taken to prevent this "dumping"; but that is a matter for our legislators, rather than our chemists. Thanks to the British and the beds of Chile, the chief source of nitrates, are always open to us, and closed to our enemies; no shortage of nitric acid can be feared. Thanks, too, to the flourishing alkali and heavy chemical industries of the Widnes and Birmingham districts, we shall always have abundance of sulphuric acid. Mention of the alkali industry suggests the utilisation of the vast chlorine industry dependent upon the salt deposits of Cheshire for the manufacture of hypochlorite gases for use at the front.

Having dealt at length upon the coal-tar industry and its bearing upon the manufacture of explosives, we may now consider the application of chemical knowledge to the manufacture of other munitions of war.

In metallurgy the influence of the chemist is becoming more and more marked. Iron and steel, not to speak of the other metals, must be systematically treated at every stage of their manufacture in order to withstand the tremendous strains put upon them. None but perfect materials can be used. This careful watching and testing requires the services of specially trained metallurgical chemists; and, despite the utmost efforts of Krupp, Britain is in this respect inferior to no other country. An illustration suffices. Of the many different microscopic varieties and compounds existing in iron and steel, all, without exception, have been discovered and defined by the metallurgists of Sheffield and our other great iron centres. Within the last few years new steel alloys have been discovered, and these have even what are practically new metals, so much do they excel ordinary steels. The contest between the projectile and armour plate alloys have been of great utility. Metallurgical chemists are also giving their attention to electrical methods of manufacture. Aluminium is perhaps the best example of the successful application of electrolysis to metallurgy. Steel and iron of the finest quality are now made in increasing quantities wherever electrical power is cheap. Electrical methods are firmly established for the manufacture of bleach, soda, carbonyl, and many other chemicals, and electro-metallurgy bids fair to become one of the most important branches of electro-chemistry.

To multiply instances of the successful application of chemical technology to industries connected with the manufacture of munitions would be tedious. Suffice it has been said to indicate the dependence of the art of fighting on the science of chemistry. There are further applications, not so intimately connected with the war, but yet of great importance to the welfare of the nation. The extraordinary conditions imposed by the war have only emphasised a problem which would, sooner or later, have become insistent—that is, the problem of our food supply. Chemistry has already come to the aid of the agriculturist by endeavouring to supply artificially defects of the soil. Bacterial change of nitrogenous animal refuse into nitrates available for the delicate assimilation of the plant is a long and tedious process, fascinating perhaps to the student, but wasteful in the eyes of the busy farmer. For this slow natural fertilisation of the soil a more rapid artificial one may be substituted. Nitrates from Chile and sulphate of ammonia from the gas and coke industries supply the requisite nitrogen by tons. Phosphates, another necessity to the plant, are supplied as basic slag, bon meal, and superphosphate. Chemistry has already done this much for our food supply; but what of the future? Nitrates from South America are now approaching exhaustion; ammonia will become scarcer and scarcer as our coal-supplies give out. And yet the cry will be all the time for more food! We have around us in the air an inexhaustible stock of nitrogen, but in an unavailable form. The problem of how to make it available is being even now attacked, and, to some extent, solved. Nitric oxide,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , and other fertilisers are being made from the air. By passing air through a whirling electric arc, a portion, never exceeding a small percentage, burns, forming nitric acid, which may be utilised either for explosives or for agricultural purposes. The process is coming into use wherever water-power is cheap and electricity may be generated at low cost. Norway, in particular, is developing this process, which, although wasteful, has a very bright future. Once given a method by which all the nitrogen of the air may be fixed in an economical manner, the food supply of the world need cause no further worry. Intensive cultivation will become general. One acre will yield the produce of two or three as things are now. Completely synthetic plant-foods are an industrial possibility. Synthetic animal foods will not be far distant. Calves' milk, artificially made was exhibited at the last Royal Agricultural Show, and found favour. The future of chemistry is bound up in synthesis. When we can reproduce in our laboratories the infinite complexity of nature's products, chemistry will have achieved its aim.

In the near future a trade war with our enemies will be waged. Let us examine the position and rôle of chemistry in this "after-war." Britain has no equal in the production of "heavy" chemicals, but with "fine" chemicals she is at present utterly behindhand. The prevailing shortage of drugs, organic acids and their salts, and coal-tar derivatives indicates the extent to which we have been relying upon enemy countries for such things. But steps are already being taken to promote this most important branch of chemical industry, so that at the end of the war we may hope to start upon more equal terms. Simultaneously with the development of the synthetic products industry will come the growth of many dependent industries, notably the contact process of sulphuric acid manufacture. Glass, too, for ordinary, for chemical, and for optical use has hitherto been chiefly a foreign industry. There is no reason why Britain should not produce a glass quite equal to any foreign product, provided that the commercial enterprise and capital are forthcoming. After all, the formulae of Jena and such glasses are now known to our chemists.

In the trades and industries indicated above, much experimental research will be necessary and much money must be spent before we shall be as proficient as our rivals. What is needed immediately is more technical education, more sympathy between capital and student. After some training at college and a technical university, the average student comes out into the world, and is given a situation in some badly equipped works "laboratory," usually a converted office or disused outbuilding, with purely makeshift apparatus. Here all ambition, all originality, all inclination for research are stifled under the humdrum monotony of routine work at forty shillings per week. Most works have a chemist on staff, but his work is unappreciated, and he therefore leaves the departmental managers. Of the three chief branches of industrial chemistry, analytical, manufacturing, and research, only the second is recognised and paid in a fitting manner. The principal reason for

(Continued at foot of next column.)

## HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS

ORDERS BY MAJOR D. MACDONALD, V.D.

Pte. W. W. W. joined the Corps on 22nd June, 1917, is allotted Corps No. 2098, and posted to Scouts Company. Pte. E. E. Joseland joined the Corps on 26th June, 1917, is allotted Corps No. 2100, and posted to Scouts Company.

No. 1884 Spr. W. G. Lawson is granted 1 month's leave from 25th June, 1917. No. 1932 Pte. E. W. L. Martin is granted 14 months' leave from 10th June, 1917.

The leave granted to No. 1945 Pte. J. Martin having expired, he is removed from the strength of the Corps dated 23rd June, 1917.

No. 1503 Pte. A. B. Purves and No. 1504 Pte. Lambert are attached to Belchers' Section dated 28th June, 1917.

Detail of duties at Lyceum, from 1st to 15th July, 1917, is posted at Headquarters.

Detail of duties for July is posted on the Notice Board at Headquarters.

To be Bombardier dated 28th June, 1917—

No. 1313 Acting Bombardier H. S. Rouse. To be Acting Bombardier dated 28th June, 1917—No. 1534 Gr. A. H. Carroll, No. 1530 Gr. N. L. Railton, No. 1532 Gr. E. W. Wilman, No. 1404 Gr. W. E. Douglas, No. 1344 Gr. C. C. Stark.

## PARADES

Tuesday, 3rd July—

7.10 a.m. Scouts Company M. G. Detachment at Headquarters.

7.30 a.m. Belchers' Section at Belchers' Battery.

5 p.m. Left Section M.G. Co. and Civil Service Company at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course.

5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Range-takers only) at Belchers' Battery.

5.30 p.m. Stretcher Bearer Section at Headquarters.

5.30 p.m. Recruits of all units at Headquarters under Corps. Edgcombe, Edmonds and Lee. Cpl. Meade.

5.45 p.m. Signalling Section, "A" and "B" classes, at Happy Valley.

Wednesday, 4th July—

5 p.m. Centre Section M.G. Co. at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course.

5.30 p.m. Right Section M.G. Co. and Scouts Co. at Headquarters under unit Commanders. Aiming Instruction and Firing Instruction.

Thursday, 5th July—

7.10 a.m. Scouts Co. M.G. Detachment at Headquarters.

5 p.m. Left Section M.G. Co. and Civil Service Co. at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course.

5.30 p.m. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables.

5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Layers and Setters only) at Belchers' Battery.

Friday, 6th July—

7.30 a.m. Belchers' Section at Belchers' Battery.

5.00 p.m. Centre Section M.G. Co. at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course.

5.30 p.m. Right Section M.G. Co. at Headquarters under unit Commanders. Aiming Instruction and Firing Instruction.

5.30 p.m. Recruits of all units on Murray Parade Ground under C.S.M. Mitchell, Corps. Edgcombe and Edmonds and Lee. Cpl. Meade.

5.30 p.m. Signalling Section, "B" class, at R. A. Theatre.

5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Gun numbers, others than specialists) at Belchers' Battery.

On duty 8th July—Scouts Co.

" 9th " —Right Sec. M.G. Co.

" 10th " —Scouts Co.

" 11th " —Right Sec. M.G. Co.

" 12th " —Scouts Co.

" 13th " —Scouts Co.

Orderly Officer from 8th to 14th July—Lieut. Kennott.

G. E. STEWART, Capt., Adjutant, H.K.V.O.

Hongkong, 29th June, 1917.

## LATEST RUSE OF "U" BOATS.

Cases are becoming more and more frequent (says *The Times* Christiania Correspondent) in which German submarines masquerade as fishing vessels. Captain Fatch, of the steamer *Kong Inge*, which was sunk in broad daylight, relates that some fishing vessels came sailing towards him, one of them at a greater speed than the rest. As this fact appeared to him suspicious, the Captain called his crew's attention to it. The suspicious vessel approached the *Kong Inge* it began firing on the steamer, which, as has been said, was sunk. German submarines, it appears, are also in the habit of sending up signals of distress in order to lure vessels to their doom.

this lack of encouragement is that the other two are not productive; a week's, a month's, or even a year's work in the case of the research chemist is perhaps represented by a few figures only. The manufacturing chemist can show for his efforts a concrete and visible result. Hence only this branch gets the recognition it deserves. The work of the analytical and research chemist must have dignity added to it and must be popularly recognised as one of the professions. When we have a better understanding between our capitalists, legislators, manufacturers, and students, together with a spirit of co-operation between the works and the university, we may hope to bring about the union of science and industry. The country will then be prepared and ready for combat against all comers, be they military foes, trade rivals, or deadly diseases.—*Chamber's Journal*.

## THREE AND A HALF HOURS' WAIT NOTICE

MR. GERARD'S REVELATION FROM BERLIN

At the dinner of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association in honour of the British Major-General Bridges, Mr. Gerard spoke of Germany's classic piece of hypocrisy in charging Mr. Wilson with "abruptness" in breaking off relations, and said that the notice Germany gave this Government of its intention to introduce ruthless submarine atrocities would not have allowed America time even to pay for a drink.

At 7.30 p.m. the Foreign Minister sent for me. When I came he read me a Note in German. That took half an hour. He then declared that they would begin the submarine war at midnight—three and a half hours' notice.

FOURTH WAY AND THE TOMMY'S

Major-General Bridges, who delivered the principal speech of the evening, received a tremendous ovation; the entire audience of 900 editors rising to its feet and cheering him thunderously when he quoted the old maxim, "When in doubt, march to the sound of the gun." He said:

"We love French soldiers, and I think the affection is mutual—widely different as we are in characteristics. Take an attack. The Frenchman goes forward over the parapet shouting, 'Vive la France!' The British soldier's watchword as he fixes bayonet and goes forward is 'This way to the early door, ad extra!'"

## GERMAN LIES AND SPIES IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA.

AEROPLANE AND ROCKET MISSILES.

Last month a message for publication reached the office of the *Odesky Listok* from Moscow to the following effect:—

It has transpired that the committee of miners has received a telegram stating that Miliukoff has been killed and that the Allied nations demand the suppression of the committees of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates.

This telegram unfortunately appeared in the afternoon edition of the *Listok*, but the issue was soon withdrawn from circulation, as the message was evidently of a provocative character, originating either from partisans of M. Lenin or from the Germans.

The Germans are indefatigable in their efforts to confuse the public mind, already sufficiently bewildered by the political developments of the last few months. While employing every artifice to induce Russian soldiers to "fraternise" at the front, they scatter legends by means of aeroplanes and even of rockets, both at the front and in the rear, announcing the outbreak of a counter-revolution in Petrograd and the fall of the Provisional Government. I have had an opportunity (says *The Times* correspondent in the Balkan Peninsula) of inspecting some of these missiles, which possess certain inventive ingenuity but have so far failed to produce results commensurate with the trouble expended on their circulation.

## HONGKONG RESERVES

ORDERS BY MAJOR WAKEMAN, O.C., H.K.V.O.

DETAIL

On duty from the morning of Sunday, 1st July, to the morning of Sunday, 8th July—A. Coy. H.K.V.O. Orderly Officer—2nd-Lieut. A. M. Thornhill.

Next for duty—H.K.V.O.

PARADES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7TH JULY.

Monday, 2nd July—

Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 6.15 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill order.

Signalling Section: "A" and "B" classes at Volunteer Headquarters at 6.15 p.m. and "C" class at Volunteer Headquarters at 8.30 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Machine-gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Mounted Section at Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Tuesday, 3rd July—

"A" and "B" Coys. on the road outside the Orderly Room at 5 p.m. Kowloon and Taiako Sections on the Polo Ground at 6.15 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Wednesday, 4th July, nil.

Thursday, 5th July—

Signalling Section: The whole section will parade at Happy Valley for Station Work. Fall in at Monument at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Machine-gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Mounted Section at Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Friday, 6th July—

Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill order.

Saturday, 7th July, nil.

STRENGTH

Pte. G. E. Goldborough having joined is allotted Corps No. 837 and posted to Coy. "B," Platoon No. 3, Section 1.

TRANSFER

No. 559 Pte. H. T. Johnson is transferred from the Mounted Section to Coy. "B," Platoon No. 5, Section 1.

No. 649 Pte. K. B. Reid is transferred to the Mounted Section.

NOTICE

Orderly Officers are responsible for guard reports being properly filled in by the N.C.O.s in charge of Guards. It is important that the regimental numbers and initials of each man should be clearly stated in guard reports.

(Sd.) C. CHAMBERLIN, Capt., Adjutant, H.K.V.O.

Hongkong, 29th June, 1917.

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# RAID ON GOVERNMENT QUARTERS

## LOTTERY TICKET PRINTING BUSINESS IN SERVANTS' ROOMS.

Large quantities of type, printers' ink, and the numerous things incidental to a fairly extensive printing business figured in Mr. Wood's Court at the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday when five Chinese were charged in connection with a raid on Government quarters on the Peak on the 19th inst. Inspector Brazil and others visited the servants' quarters of 4, Stewart Terrace, occupied by Messrs. Lloyd and Schofield, and found large quantities of types, etc., which revealed the fact that an extensive lottery ticket printing business was being carried on. The No. 1 "boy" got away, but five arrests were made, three of the arrested men being servants on the premises. The charges were printing and publishing lottery tickets and keeping a common gaming house, and two of the defendants were charged with aiding and abetting in the printing and publishing of the tickets.

Mr. Leo d'Almada defended four of the defendants.

Sergeant Cashman said that on the 19th inst., about 8.30 p.m., he executed a warrant at 4, Stewart Terrace, in company with Inspector Brazil and a Chinese detective. When they got into the servants' quarters they found, in the first room, three of the defendants, who were left in charge of the Chinese detective. Witnesses went in search of and found another defendant, and when he attempted to enter another room he found that the door was being held by someone on the other side. He forced the door open and on going into the room he saw another defendant, who was sitting down in front of a printing press, the one in Court. Witness arrested him, and upon examining the printing press, found that the ink upon it was fresh. A page had also been set. There was also printer's ink about and brushes. In the room, also, there was a quantity of sheets of paper, each sheet being partly printed. Another roll of sheets had all been printed. Another find was a table containing drawers. In one of the drawers was a quantity of set type and also small printed slips, lottery tickets. The other drawer contained a number of blank slips used for printing lottery tickets, and also some books. In another room, underneath a bed, he found a large roll of paper, and also a further quantity of set type. After these finds the five defendants were sent to the police station. Later in the evening witness returned to the house, and in the kitchen, he found eight type cases, six of which contained type, a bundle of paper, and a small wooden box also containing type. On the floor, also, there was a large quantity of Chinese "chits."

By Mr. d'Almada—The warrant was directed against the whole of 4, Stewart Terrace, but he did not suspect all the tenants of the house. He satisfied himself that the premises were occupied by Mr. Lloyd before he went into the house. He did not know that the servants of the house were concerned in the affair until he went into the house. He did not receive the information which resulted in the raid. He had no reason to believe that the owners of the premises were concerned in the affair at all. Though he went into the servants' quarters he did not suspect them until he saw what the rooms contained. Since the occurrence he had made enquiries and had been informed by Mr. Lloyd that his No. 1 "boy" had disappeared. One of the defendants was Mr. Lloyd's cook, another was Mr. Schofield's "boy," and a third was a coolie. The other two had nothing to do with the house.

The Chief Chinese Detective gave expert evidence as to the nature of the type, the printed slips, etc. He expressed the opinion that all was being used for the printing of lottery tickets. Witness read several of the forms of set type, which showed that they related to lotteries, some of the drawings having already taken place.

Three of the defendants were discharged, the Magistrate deciding that there was nothing against them. One of the remainder was fined \$500, or six months' imprisonment, and the fifth was remanded.

# AN IRON ROOF.

## CONTRACTORS AT LAW.

An iron roof was the subject of litigation at the Hongkong Supreme Court yesterday, when the Tai Lee firm, building contractors, claimed the sum of \$3,450.20 from the Ying Loong Hing firm, also building contractors. The sum was for work done and materials supplied in January, 1916.

Mr. Y. H. Tsan, barrister, instructed by Mr. J. H. Gardiner, appeared for plaintiffs. Defendants were not represented, nor did they put in an appearance.

Mr. Tsan said he had received a letter from Mr. R. C. Faithfull acknowledging his (Mr. Tsan's) letter giving notice of the date on which the proceedings would be heard. But neither he nor his clients had put in an appearance, and he would merely prove the case. The contract entered into between the two parties was that plaintiffs should carry out the work of removing the whole of the iron roof of the International Bank, Shameen, Canton, and also replace it with hard wood. Plaintiffs' price for this work was \$3,000, but it was also agreed that if there should be any additional work or materials supplied, an extra sum should be charged over and above the contract price. Extra work was done and more materials were supplied, which brought up the cost to \$3,450.20. The work was completed some five months after the signing of the contract, and, as the work progressed, instalments fell due and application was made for payment by the partners of the plaintiff firm. The defendants, however, refused to make any payment whatsoever, making a number of excuses, and eventually the defendants became very angry and stated that they would never pay a single cash. Further application was made, and one of the plaintiff partners succeeded in getting a loan of \$15 from one of the defendant partners, for which he gave a receipt. This was the only sum that had ever been paid.

His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiffs with cost.

# HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

## OPIMUM.

A case in which a Chinese was charged with being in possession of 32 tael of opium was adjourned until to-day.

# AN OLD THIEF.

Sentence of three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks was imposed upon a Chinese who, in addition to stealing a bowl, also had a record of previous convictions against his name.

# JEWELLERY THEFT.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball with the theft of a gold-filled watch, a gold chain, a gold toe-clip, a gold locket and a gold mounted jade charm from 184, Queen's Road West. The jewellery is valued at \$124. The case was remanded.

# QUARREL WITH THE LANDLADY.

When his landlady refused to allow him to lock his dear Chinese lodger endeavoured to explain to her that she had no right to do this. The lodger also tried to force the woman away from the door. Upon she struck him with a book. This excited the lodger, who pushed the landlady down with such force that she sustained several injuries.

Mr. Wood fined the lodger \$50.

# EXCHANGE BUSINESS.

Ten thousand copper cash figured in a case in which a Chinese was charged with attempting to import these coins into the Colony.

Inspector Davitt said that there was a great deal of this sort of business going on at the present time. Copper cash were very cheap in China and they were brought down here to be exchanged for silver dollars, which were dear. The man was arrested as he was leaving a Canton boat.

The defendant stated that he was merely a wharf coolie, and had been employed to carry the cash. He could be able to find the man who employed him if he were allowed to do so.

The Magistrate decided to give the defendant an opportunity of finding his employer, and the case was adjourned.

# HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

Messrs. Vernon & Smyth, in their weekly share-report dated the 29th June, 1917, state:—

Since our last report of 22nd June, we have no improvement to record in our local market, which remains as dull and inactive as ever. Apart from a few transactions to square the Settlement, the volume of business has been very small. Shanghai market for Cotton Shares has been rather better. Singapore market is dull but prices keep steady, and in fact it does not seem easy to buy some of the favourite Rubber shares at the quotations. The Malaka Pinda Company has announced a second interim dividend of 10 per cent. The following are our to-day's wired quotations:—

Alor Gajah	\$ 4.05
Ayer Pains	11.25
Glenclyns	2.20
Kedahs	4.25
Kempas	7.75
Malaka Pinda	2.90
Malakoff	4.10
New Serendah	4.20
Sandycrofts	4.75
Tapahs	10.00

Plantation Rubber in London is quoted 2/5½. Bar Silver is quoted at 30½. Sterling T.T. is 2/6 3/8. Singapore T.T. is 107½. Shanghai T.T. is nominal at about 65½, and the Bank's buying rate for 3d/4 Bills is nominal at about 65½.

BANKS.—In sympathy with exchange, this market is lower, and Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares are offering at \$98½, small sales having been made at \$98.

MARINE INSURANCES.—No business is reported. Unions are on offer at \$35½. Cantons can probably be obtained at \$340. North Chinas are nominal at Tls. 150. Yangtzes are wanted at \$190 at ex. 73.

FIRE INSURANCES.—There is no change to report. China Fires are still wanted at \$143. Hongkong Fires are nominal at \$32½.

SHIPPING.—Very little business has transpired in this market. Douglases remain very quiet, with a nominal quotation of \$55. Indo-Chinas Deferred were done at \$102 and \$101½, and are now wanted at \$101 in places where there were sellers at the rate a few days ago. Steamboats have been in good request, and close with buyers at \$17½, and probably rather more would be paid. Star Ferries are nominal at \$29.

OILS.—Shells are in request at 115/- cum dividend and rights. Langkats have buyers from the North at Tls. 15½. Ural Caspians are nominal, at the reduced quotation of 32/-.

REFINERIES.—A moderate business was done over the settlement at \$100 and \$99, and at the latter rate there are further buyers. Malabons could be placed at \$29.

MINES.—Kailans have improved to a buying rate of 34/6, but no business is reported. Sales of Tronohs have been made at 25/6, and more shares could be placed. Raubs remain nominal and unchanged at \$2.45.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after improving to \$118, were done over the Settlement at \$116, and at this rate they close with buyers. Kowloon Wharves have been sold at \$74, and further shares are obtainable at the rate. Shanghai Docks have improved their position, and are now wanted for the North at Tls. 93½.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—This has been a very quiet market. Sales of Hotels are reported at \$97, and of Humphreys at \$6.30. Lands are wanted at \$63. Kowloon Lands are offering at \$53, and Centrals at the reduced rate of \$97. West Point's have a nominal quotation of \$74.

COTTON MILLS.—Market has kept steady and would seem to have an improving tendency. Shanghai Cottons could be placed at Tls. 123½. Kuna Yiks at Tls. 14½, and Yangtzepeeps at Tls. 5.60. Ewos remain nominal at Tls. 157½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cements are rather lower, and after sales at \$7.60 a fair business has been done at \$7.40, and they close with probable buyers at the rate. Electricies are in demand at \$48, and Watsons at \$6. Tramways could probably be placed at \$6.40. Ropes are nominal at \$27. China Borneos at \$7. China Lights at \$4½. Providents are wanted at \$7.60.

MEMO.—Next Settlement Day, 27th July.

# CUT-OFF BRITISH HOLD OUT

## MIDDLESEX AND THE ARGYLLS.

### SPLENDID WORCESTERS.

[FROM W. BEACH THOMAS.]

A stand that recalls the feat of the West Kents in Trone Wood (in the Somme Battle) is to be recorded of two parties of British troops. They had charged and taken 14 men and 9 officers prisoners.

This charge of our troops was followed by one of the most successful of all the German counter-attacks. We were driven back quite to our original line, these two companies alone excepted. Though surrounded by advancing waves, they held firm, lost very few men, and dealt many shrewd blows at the enemy who passed them, and they clung to their prisoners, who seem to have been in real fear lest they should be killed. While still fighting on this island, or peninsula, they saw the approach of a new danger. Our artillery opened in volume on the advancing Germans, among whom these Middlesex and Argyll and Sutherlands found themselves.

Would the shells fall on their island as well as on the encircling enemy? Happily our gunners had observed the situation and the shells fell in a beautiful curtain just beyond this stalwart garrison, quite protecting them from further attack from the east. Further encouraged by this cheering spectacle, their officers decided to hold on to the end, come what might. And they held until the triumphant moment when our troops, gathering strength, rushed back the Germans.

### RETREATING ENEMY.

The garrison took toll of the enemy retreating at full speed past them, and soon were ranged again in line with our renewed advance, and their heroic adventure had a happy ending.

All this ground is strewn thick as no ground that we have ever seen with German dead. They lie everywhere open to the heavens, for never before have charges and counter-charges traversed such wide spaces above ground or men on either side so clearly seen the enemy face to face. Even the men at the guns have watched the effect of their own fire. Nevertheless, the dead here at the extreme left of the German 6th Army are few and widely scattered compared with the dead in front of the English troops who stormed Gavrelle, north of the river, at the southern edge of the Vimy Ridge. The enemy yielded the village easily, and no fewer than 80 prisoners were taken in a block in one cellar with four machine guns. But their efforts to recapture it were as determined as the original defence was weak. Five assaults in force were launched on one day, and a yet more powerful one on the next day. All were beaten back with loss, and the last three were almost annihilated. Our shrapnel swept the whole of the ranks down as they advanced and did almost equal havoc to the rest, who retreated.

The dead lie in heaps before our position. That phrase has doubtless been used more often than it has been justified, but in this case it is true in a literal and natural sense. Body lies upon body where our fire caught successive waves. FENCED WORCESTERS' STAND FOR 38 HOURS. The story of the great stand by the men of the Argyll and Sutherland and the Middlesex Regiments was paralleled at the same time by the experiences of a Worcester regiment at another part of the field. Two great and temporarily successful German charges swept back their neighbours on both flanks. They were rather better entrenched and were able to set up a more scientific defence, and so kept their lines intact. Though one wave of at least 3,000 Germans, succeeded by another of at least 4,000, drove past them and broke over them, no man thought of surrender. They were able to signal back to their friends, and careful control of their munitions enabled them to react on the enemy, but they were completely cut off. Their water failed and they suffered agonies of thirst.

All the while a hurricane of shell fire burst on all sides and the dust and smoke added to their thirst and the strain, but they kept a sturdy faith that the tide which had ebbed so violently would flow again, though it seemed no nearer inch to gain. They knew that they belonged to a unit which has never deserted its friend or feared the final sacrifice.

At last, after a day and a night and a day, they noticed the Germans beginning to give, and had some real palpable hope again. After another 12 or 14 hours of hope further deferred, the last rearguard of the retreating enemy ran by on their left, and close on their heels their friends came up. A few minutes later small supplies of water reached them. Some men had completely lost their voice, and few could speak clearly. Tongues were swollen and lips parched to extremity, even in those who had suffered no wounds.

### ACCORDING TO OUR PLAN.

Another much smaller island of our men held out with equal courage during the same series of encounters, and very daring attempts were made by our water-carriers, as brave as Kipling's Gunga Din, to carry supplies forward, but in the dark they went astray into the German ranks, and neither carriers nor the little garrison were found when at last our successful charge went home and we finally routed the enemy from this neighbourhood.

Unconscious humour in places of worship does not always come from the pulpit. At a church where the selection of the hymns formed part of the organist's duty, the feelings of the minister, who had just delivered a fiery sermon upon "Hell," may be better imagined than described when, on its conclusion, the organist began to play the hymn tune "What must it be to be there?" Equally inappropriate to the occasion was the musical number selected to follow a tediously long sermon by the pastor (who was no orator), the anthem "Now it is high time to awake out of sleep."

# INTIMATIONS

**LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.**  
(ESTABLISHED 1850). (TELEPHONE 1741).

NEW STOCKS OF  
BLACK, BROWN AND PATENT.

**"WALK-OVER"**  
**BOOTS and SHOES**

\$12.00 \$13.50 \$14.50 \$16.50 per pair.



THESE PRICES ARE REMARKABLY LOW AS BOOT

PRICES GO NOWADAYS.

WE CAN GIVE YOU A LARGE SELECTION IN ALL

WEIGHTS AND SIZES.

THE VALUE IS UNQUESTIONABLE, AS THE COMFORT

AND SERVICE OF EVERY PAIR WILL PROVE.

SOLE AGENTS:

**LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.**

**A.V.C. FINEST OLD LIQUEUR**  
**BRANDY.**

GUARANTEED 30 YEARS OLD.

**V. D. CLARETS. V. D. SAUTERNES.**  
**V. D. BURGUNDIES.**

Stocked by HONGKONG HOTEL.

Obtainable at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

**A. & B. MACKAY'S LIQUEUR**  
**WHISKY.**  
**THE ORIGINAL LIQUEUR**  
**WHISKY.**

PRICE \$24.00 PER CASE DUTY PAID.

Has a fine mild flavour and a refreshing clean taste.

Obtainable at all Local Stores.

and at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

[167-3]

**Powell Ltd**  
TELEPHONE 340

JUST ARRIVED!

A VARIED ASSORTMENT  
OF  
**LADIES' TENNIS AND GOLF SHOES.**

NOW ON SHOW.



## INTIMATIONS

## GENERAL HOLIDAY

UNDER Ordinance No. 5 of 1912. MONDAY, 2nd July, has been proclaimed a GENERAL HOLIDAY, and the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for Business on that day.  
Hongkong, 27th June, 1917. [778]

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY  
(BRITISH SECTION).

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that commencing on SATURDAY, 30th instant, and on each succeeding Saturday until further notice, Tickets will not be supplied on the Train leaving Kowloon at 1.28 p.m.  
By Order,  
H. P. WINELOW, Manager. [780]

## DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA, E.C.

## NOTICE

A SPECIAL MEETING of the DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA, held at the Masonic Hall, 2, Zeland Street, on SATURDAY, 23rd inst., in celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the first Assembly of the Grand Lodge of England, which was commenced on that day throughout the Empire, a collection was made in aid of the

## HONGKONG WAR CHARITIES FUND.

Proceedings not present at the Meeting who wish to subscribe may, until 7th July, send donations to W. J. TORRES, Esq., who will be glad to receive contributions however small.  
By Command of the D. D. G. M.  
Hongkong, 27th June, 1917. [781]

## NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Partnership formerly subsisting between the Undersigned and Mr. POON WAN KOOK carrying on business under the Style or Firm name of UNION TRADING COMPANY in the Colony of Hongkong and elsewhere has been Dissolved as from the 31st December, 1916, so far as concerns the said Mr. POON WAN KOOK, who retired from the said Firm on that date.  
Dated Hongkong, 27th June, 1917.  
(Sd.) S. M. CHUEN,  
(Sd.) C. HONEY. [777]

## HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

## NOTICE

OWING to the GREATLY INCREASED COST of Manufacture it has been decided to raise the PRICE of ICE to 14 cents per lb. as from the 1st July next.  
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers.  
Hongkong, 22nd June, 1917. [780]

## THE UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

## ST. JOHN'S HALL.

THE SENIOR HOSTEL for the Residence of Students at Hongkong University. Applications for Rooms for September should be made now to:  
The Acting Warden,  
ST. JOHN'S HALL,  
University, Hongkong. [789]

## FOR SALE.

DO NOT MISS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY.

BEAN and Nut OIL MILL PLANT in perfect working order for sale at next to scrap-metal price.  
Please address enquiries to—  
"K."  
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [776]

## FOR SALE.

BAGS OF USED ASIATIC POSTAGE STAMPS.  
400 Stamps for \$1.50 1000 Stamps for \$2.50  
500 " " 0.80 2000 " " 3.50  
1000 " " 1.50 3000 " " 4.50  
1500 " " 2.00 4000 " " 5.50

GRACA & CO.,  
No. 4, WYNDHAM STREET,  
Hongkong.

## NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.  
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.  
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE, 1916.  
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.  
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

## AUCTIONS

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on TUESDAY, the 3rd day of July, 1917, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His Excellency THE GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND above Bowen Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty THE KING, for one further term of 75 years.

## PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

Locality	Boundary Measurements (Approximate)	Containing	Approximate Area	Area in Acres	Area in Sq. Yds.	Area in Sq. Ft.
Lot 101, Section A of Marine Lot No. 101, together with the messuages, erections and buildings thereon known as No. 7, Queen's Road Central, Victoria aforesaid. Term 99 years, created by a Crown Lease dated the 8th day of April, 1893.	101-6445 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$34.48.	Area in respect of Section "B" of Marine Lot No. 101-6735 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$4.78.	101-6445 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$34.48.	2.38	207,000	2,380,000

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidators of Messrs. JAMES & Co. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government to sell by public auction at 11 o'clock (Noon) on TUESDAY, the 3rd day of July, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY situated at The Peak, Hongkong, and being RURAL BUILDING LOT No. 19.

## In One Lot.

The Property Consists of:—  
The piece of parcel of ground and premises known as "Lyahok," 104, The Peak, situated near Mount Gough, in the Colony of Hongkong, with an area of 124,033 square feet and registered in the Land Office as Rural Building Lot No. 19.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 75 years created therein by an indenture of Crown Lease dated the 23rd day of April, 1896.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$35.00.  
For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to—

Messrs. WILKINSON & GRIST,  
Solicitors for the Liquidators,  
or to the Undersigned,  
GEO. P. LAMBERT,  
Auctioneer. [697]

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

BY direction of the Government of Hongkong, Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

## On MONDAY,

the 13th day of August, 1917, at 3 P.M., at their Sales Room, Ice House Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

The Following VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY situated at Victoria, Hongkong, viz.:

ALL THOSE pieces or parcels of ground situated at Victoria aforesaid and known and registered in the Land Office as SECTION A OF MARINE LOT NO. 101 and SECTION "B" OF MARINE LOT NO. 101. Together with the messuages, erections and buildings and buildings thereon known as No. 7, Queen's Road Central, Victoria aforesaid. Term 99 years, created by a Crown Lease dated the 8th day of April, 1893.

Area in respect of Section "A" of Marine Lot No. 101-6445 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$34.48.  
Area in respect of Section "B" of Marine Lot No. 101-6735 sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$4.78.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to—

JOHN STOKES & MASTER,  
Principals Buildings,  
Ice House Street, Hongkong,  
Solicitors for the Liquidator of  
THE DISTRICT ASSURANCE BANK,  
or to  
Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,  
The Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, 24th May, 1917. [618]

## FOR EUROPE AND AMERICA.

INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c.,

PRIVATE RESIDENCES AT THE OUTPOSTS.

A Comprehensive and Complete Record

of the

NEWS OF THE FAR EAST

Is given in the

HONGKONG WEEKLY

PRESS

with which is incorporated

THE CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT.

Subscription, paid in advance,

\$15 per annum. Postage

\$5 to any part of

the World.

## HOUSES TO LET

## TO LET.

A T. Macao, a NICE FURNISHED HOUSE in the best locality, for Summer. Immediate possession.  
Apply to—  
OFFICE of PEAK HOTEL. [776]

## TO LET.

NOS. 3A & B, ROBINSON ROAD.  
Apply to—  
DAVID SABSOON & Co., Ltd. [628]

## TO LET.

1 NEW HOUSE in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation. Also 1 GODOWN in Duddell Street.  
For rent and other particulars apply to—  
H. M. H. NEMAZER,  
1 Des Voeux Road. [409]

## TO LET.

A FIVE-ROOMED HOUSE, with Tennis Court, in Mission Villa, Kowloon.  
A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.  
Apply to—  
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,  
Alexandra Buildings. [623]

## TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.  
OFFICES in King's and York Buildings.  
HOUSES to Let, Wongschoong Road.  
HOUSES in Chiton Gardens, Connaught Road.  
HOUSES in Broadwood and Morison Terraces.  
HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.  
Apply to—  
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd. [628]

## WANTED.

A HOUSE or WHOLE FLOOR with about 10 Rooms in a central location. Please apply to—  
Box No. 1,  
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [707]

## WANTED.

OFFICE at the Central Location.  
Apply to—  
FURUKAWA & Co.,  
20, Des Voeux Road Central. [703]

## NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

S.S. "DUMBEA"  
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from Harbin, &c., in connection with above steamer are hereby informed that their Goods with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risks into the hazardous and or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignee before Noon To-day requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after the 4th July, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All Claims must be sent in to me or before the 8th July, or they will not be recognized.

All damaged packages will be examined on TUESDAY, the 3rd July, at 10 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.  
P. THOMAS, Agent. [62]

## ON SALE.

A TABLE OF THE

RATES OF EXCHANGE

AT HONGKONG

FOR

DEMAND DRAFTS ON BOMBAY

On the Day preceding the Departure of the English Mails from the Year of the Closing of the Indian Mails to the Free Coinage of Silver

FROM 1890 to 1899

AND

RATES FOR SOVEREIGN, GOLD

LEAF, BAR SILVER (From 1890).

and other Useful Information.

PRICE 51 CASH.

On Sale at the "DAILY PRESS" Office and Local Bookstalls.

## INTIMATION

## BY APPOINTMENT.

WATSON'S  
STONE  
GINGER-  
BEER

The only fermented Stone Ginger-Beer in the Far East.

The real charm of Stone Ginger-Beer is the flavour produced by partial fermentation; without this no Stone Ginger-Beer can be said to be genuine.

\$1.00 per doz.



A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

TELEPHONE 436

[12]

## DEATHS

HUMPHREYS—Suddenly at sea, on Tuesday, 19th inst., on board the *Empress of Asia*, W. G. HUMPHREYS.—By cable. [778]

WALLACE—On the 29th June, at the Government Civil Hospital, after a long illness, JAMES WALLACE, aged 46. [783]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 104, DES VOEUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 30TH JUNE, 1917.

## THE MESOPOTAMIA MUDDLE.

THE report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the conduct of the campaign in Mesopotamia is a damning indictment which fully justifies the strictures that were passed upon the operations in this theatre of war by *The Times* in March of last year, and taken in conjunction with the Munitions scandal and the Dardanelles failure, shows that a rigorous Press Censorship such as that which was imposed when hostilities first broke out would not have been an unmixed blessing to the nation if it had been permitted to continue. The expedition to the Persian Gulf opened in November of 1914, and for nearly twelve months afterwards was uniformly successful; indeed, Mr. ASQUITH announced in the House of Commons that our forces were "within measurable distance of Baghdad." But, as at Gallipoli, just when the objective seemed to be within reach it was snatched from our grasp. The case with which our progress had been made led us, apparently, to underestimate the enemy and to push on through a roadless country, destitute of supplies and transport, without proper preparations. The consequences were disastrous. At Ctesiphon the retreating Turks took up a prepared position, where they were strongly reinforced, and General Townshend, who had been sent in pursuit with a weary and inadequate force, was obliged, after suffering 4,500 casualties, to fall back upon Kut. Here he was invested, and after a gallant defence lasting nearly five months, during

which several ineffectual attempts were made to relieve him, he was compelled to capitulate in consequence of the exhaustion of his supplies, and the garrison of eleven thousand troops was taken prisoner by the enemy. In the meantime, "the veil of secrecy and silence," which had been discreetly drawn over the Tigris when matters went awry was lifted by the *Times*, which, in a leading article entitled "Mismanagement in Mesopotamia," said:—"The statements transmitted to us from many quarters seem to point to something like a breakdown of the medical arrangements. It is said that the field hospitals are too few, are badly equipped, and inadequately staffed. Medical requisites are sometimes lacking, and the scarcity of doctors is deplorable. We have now heard of cases after cases in which seriously wounded officers and men have been left for two or three days with no further attention to their injuries than the first field dressing. The river steamers on the Tigris are said to make their voyage downstream with the decks strewn with wounded men, insufficiently provided with coverings to shield them from the bitter cold of a Chaldean winter's night. The larger vessels which carry the wounded through the Persian Gulf to Bombay are imperfectly staffed, and one correspondent says that wounded have been arriving at the Bombay Docks in a condition which recalls SMOLLYER's account of the attack on Cartagena. Another correspondent says that the torments of rain, flooding trenches and camps, make many wounds gangrenous. But the principal complaint, which has now been reaching us in increasing volume for some weeks, is that doctors and nurses are scarce, that medical requisites and comforts are lacking, and that lives are being lost through neglect due to imperfect organization. We fear the later stages of the Mesopotamian operations have in many respects been very badly run. Few casualties were expected, and no provision was made for a flood of wounded. Entrenched positions on the open plain were attacked in January without adequate artillery preparation, and the consequences were grave. To-day the transport is insufficient for the requirements of a large force." The strong criticisms which these revelations called forth in the Press and in Parliament led to a complete reorganization, and the result of this was seen last March, when General MAUDE entered Baghdad after a brilliant pursuit of the Turks, who were compelled to retire in great disorder after suffering heavy losses. It is this which enables the Commissioners to declare that "notwithstanding the period of reverses the success of the campaign as a whole has been remarkable," and that nowhere have "more substantial or more solid victories" been achieved than in Mesopotamia. Probably this is all we should have heard if an immediate investigation of the facts had not been insisted upon. As it is, we are told that the medical provision "was insufficient from the beginning and ultimately resulted in a lamentable breakdown after the battles of 1915-16 and most lamentable and severe suffering." The Commissioners find that Surgeon-General HATFIELD "showed unfittness for his office," and they severely censure the Commander-in-Chief in India, Sir BRUCE CAMPBELL, who "not only failed closely to superintend the adequacy of medical provision but, until the Viceroy's superior authority forced him, declined to take notice of rumours which were true." They also criticize the failure of the Commander-in-Chief to visit Mesopotamia periodically, either in person or by his representatives. "The general armament and equipment were quite insufficient to meet the needs. The whole system of commissariat was badly organized during the period of Indian Government responsibility and, though there was no general breakdown, the Simla authorities bestowed meagre attention and illiberal treatment to the expedition's wants during 1914-15. The supply of reinforcements was also insufficient." The Commissioners describe the advance towards Baghdad in October, 1915, as "an offensive movement based on political and military miscalculations. It was attempted with tired and insufficient forces and inadequate preparation and resulted in the Kut disaster. The weightiest share of responsibility for the untoward advance lies with General Sir JOHN NIXON, whose confident optimism was the main cause of the decision. The Indian military authorities insufficiently realized from the first

(adds the Report) the paramount importance of river and railway transport in Mesopotamia, and their responsibility was grave. General Sir JOHN NIXON was responsible for recommending the 1915 advances with insufficient transport and equipment. The transport shortage at the beginning of 1916 rendered the Kut relief operations fatal." Painful as these disclosures are, it is in the national interest that they should be made now, so that those who are culpable may be no longer entrusted with responsibilities which they have shown themselves so utterly incapable of discharging.

The Bishop of Victoria will be the preacher at the Cathedral to-morrow (Sunday) morning. The evening service at the Peak Church will be resumed on July 8th.

A Chinese woman has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from the effects of immersion. It seems that she was married four days ago, had a quarrel with her husband, and then jumped into the harbour.

TWO MORE HONGKONG  
AEROPLANES FOR THE FRONT  
OVERSEAS CLUB'S SUCCESSFUL  
APPEAL

Mr. J. J. Bryan, the local Corresponding Secretary of the Overseas Club, informs us that he cabled to the Overseas Club, London, yesterday the following amounts for the purchase of two aeroplanes:—

\$2,250 for a 100 horse-power gun-mounted Aeroplane, given Mr. A. R. Love, who, it will be remembered, offered to give an aeroplane on the condition that the General Community subscribed another by July 1st.

\$1,500 for a 70 horse-power Aeroplane subscribed by Residents of Hongkong in response to the appeal made by the local branch of the Overseas Club.

## ON THE "PHEUMPHENH"

At the Hongkong Summary Court yesterday, before Mr. Justice Gompertz, the case was mentioned in which W. J. Stocks is suing Captain de la Sala for the sum of \$1,000, for alleged libel.

Mr. Grist said he understood that the parties desired to argue the legal points of the case and then have it tried before a judge and jury.

The Puisne Judge remarked that he would appoint a day next week for that purpose.

CHINA MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.'S  
NEW PURCHASE.

THE S.S. "CONGRESS" TO BE RENAMED THE "NANKING."

Contracts covering the purchase by the China Mail Steamship Co., Ltd., and reconstruction of the former Pacific Coast Steamship Company's *Congress* were concluded in the latter part of May, and, according to present advices, the ship should be ready for service on the Pacific some time during November, and may be expected to leave Hongkong about the end of December.

The vessel which was built in 1913, is 442 ft. long, 55 ft. beam, 7,985 tons gross, 4,612 tons net, displacement 13,800 tons, has a double bottom throughout, has twin screws, burns oil fuel, and has a speed of about 16 knots.

As reconstructed by the Seattle Construction and Dry Dock Co., she will have a passenger capacity for approximately 190 cabin passengers, 100 second and 600 steerage, and will be first-class, modern and up-to-date in every respect. When full up with steerage passengers she will carry approximately 4,800 tons cargo.

It is proposed after reconstruction when the vessel takes the water at Seattle to rename her the *Nanking* in honour of the ancient capital of China.

COMFORTS FOR OUR SOLDIERS  
AND SAILORS.

GIFTS RECEIVED BY THE HONGKONG WAR CHARITIES COMMITTEE.

The following gifts have been received by the War Charities Committee for the use of our Soldiers and Sailors at the front, and will be distributed in due course through the medium of the Committee's representative in London:—

From Messrs. Wessmanull Assomull—5 chests China tea.  
From Messrs. Insular Cigar Factory, Manila—One case tobacco cuttings.  
From the Philippine Co. Manila—Two cases containing 425 packages of smoking tobacco, three cases containing 12,000 cigars, and 230 packages of smoking tobacco.



# THE WAR.

## ACTIVITY IN THE WEST.

### MAKING MUNITIONS.

#### WHAT THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING.

### GREEK SITUATION.

### MESOPOTAMIA MATTERS.

#### Franco-Belgian Front.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

#### HEAVY BRITISH BOMBARDMENT.

LONDON, June 28th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We have heavily bombarded Fontaine les Croisilles.

We repulsed attacks to the south of the Cojal River.

Raiders entered the trenches to the east of Vermelles, but they were immediately ejected.

#### "DRAGON'S CAVE."

##### HOW IT WAS CAPTURED.

LONDON, June 28th.

Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters, amplifying the news of the fighting at the "Dragon's Cave," which was reported in a communication earlier, says that the "Cave" stopped the French attack at the beginning of the offensive on April 10th. Both sides succeeded in establishing themselves in trenches traversing the roof, but the possession was to the advantage of the Boches, natural and artificial channels of communication enabling them to bring up reserves from shelter when required. The capture of the "Cave" and the spur jutting out from an adjoining crest called "The Finger," and the neighbouring position from which the garrison might expect assistance, began with a five days' bombardment.

The French possessed the southern entrance of the "Cave" and their fire commanded the main entrance, nullifying its use. It was impracticable to force a passage by the southern entrance, which the German posts commanded from within. The attacking force, consisting of picked men, attacked above ground and rushed the German trench line above the "Cave" and almost instantly stopped all exits from it. A Boche machine-gun post in the shaft running down to the interior of the "Cave" between the opposing trenches was put out of action by liquid fire. The French, through a hole made in the roof, steadily poured in bombs, and as the tenure of the "Cave" was impossible, the Germans surrendered. Altogether 317 were made prisoners.

#### GERMANS BEATEN OFF WITH SPADES.

LONDON, June 28th.

Correspondents at the British Headquarters say that during the fighting in the vicinity of Lens, a detachment of the Durham beat off a German counter-attack with spades. The Durhams were digging a new trench in the darkness, when enemy infantry suddenly appeared. The Durhams had no time to seize their rifles or to summon help, but went for the Westphalians with uplifted spades, felling several and scattering others.

A second counter-attack by so-called "storm troops" was an equally miserable failure. These troops are merely youths of eighteen, and their employment is a new experiment in German attacks. They are commanded chiefly by non-commissioned officers and their moral is badly shaken by our constant shelling and night raids.

#### FUTILE ENEMY EFFORT.

PARIS, June 28th.

A communiqué states:—The artillery struggle has been particularly active in the regions of Hurleuse and Mont Cornille.

A German attempt on the Wattweiler salient to the north-east of Thann, failed. Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down.

#### Russian Front.

##### LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

#### RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE?

LONDON, June 28th.

There is reason to believe that the Russians have begun an offensive at two points.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### RUSSIANS DRIVING THE TURKS.

LONDON, June 28th.

A Russian official wireless message states:—We occupied Napi and Takhoh, to the north-west of Erzerum, driving back the Turks to the mountains in the region of Bistann. We continue to progress towards Penderjeh.

#### Naval Activities.

##### LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

#### "MONGOLIA" CASUALTIES.

LONDON, June 28th.

An official announcement by the P. and O. Company states that two European and one Parsee passengers, and six European and fourteen of the native crew of the *Mongolia* were killed by the explosion. Of the balance, forty-five have been landed on the Indian coast, despite the monsoon weather.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### SINKING OF THE "MONGOLIA."

LONDON, June 27th.

It is stated that four British engineers and ten Parsees on the *Mongolia* were killed by the explosion. Two European and one Parsee passengers are missing.

#### GERMAN INTRIGUE.

##### DYNAMITE ON A BRITISH SHIP.

LONDON, June 28th.

A telegram from Stockholm states that dynamite has been discovered aboard a British steamer loading there. German agents are suspected.

#### The Near East.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

#### FIGHTING IN MESOPOTAMIA.

##### BRITISH AIRCRAFT DO GOOD WORK.

LONDON, June 28th.

A Mesopotamia official message states:—Our aeroplanes bombed and directly hit a Turkish river steamer.

Hostile aeroplanes on Monday bombarded our camps, without doing any damage. We retaliated on Tuesday by dropping twenty-four bombs on the enemy's camps at Tekrit, securing seven direct hits on tents.

#### The Balkans.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

#### GERMAN COMPENSATION TO HOLLAND.

##### SOME SHUFFLING.

AMSTERDAM, June 28th.

The Berlin official statement confirming the granting of compensation for the seven torpedoed Dutch steamers declares that the torpedoing was due to a derangement of the submarine's wireless apparatus.

This is in striking contrast to the announcement of February 28th, which threw the responsibility on the Dutch shipowners.

#### SITUATION IN GREECE.

##### FRENCH CAVALRY ACTIVE.

SALONIKA, June 28th.

French cavalry has occupied the town of Amphissa, in the Gulf of Corinth, between Bralo and Itea.

It is recalled that this route was originally selected for the transfer of the Serbian Army from Corfu to Salonika, which was finally effected by sea owing to opposition by the Skouliotis Cabinet.

##### General.

##### LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

#### LORD STANLEY WINS.

LONDON, June 28th.

The Abercromby bye-election has resulted in a victory for Lord Stanley, who defeated Mr. Hughes by 2,924 votes to 794.

#### GREEK AFFAIRS.

##### TO CONVOKE A DISSOLVED PARLIAMENT.

ATHENS, June 28th.

A decree is about to be published convoking the Parliament elected on May 31st last year, in which there is a large Venizelist majority, and which ex-King Constantine arbitrarily dissolved.

The Government intends seeking the King's consent to convocate a national assembly, and to remould the system of Constitutional Government.

#### SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

##### NO NEWS OF DURNOVO AFFAIR.

LONDON, June 28th.

Since the 24th inst. there has been nothing more from Petrograd about the Durnovo affair. Apparently the Government avoided a conflict in the midst of much inflammable material.

#### AUSTRIA AND PEACE.

##### A GUARANTEE WANTED.

AMSTERDAM, June 28th.

In the debate in the Austrian Parliament on the prospects of peace, the newly-elected Premier, Dr. von Seidler, declared that Austria-Hungary had always been ready to conclude an honourable peace, but it must include a guarantee for the assured development of the empire, otherwise they would continue to fight.

#### MESOPOTAMIA AIR SERVICE.

##### NO COMPLAINTS.

LONDON, June 28th.

In the House of Commons, Col. Baird stated that he was unaware that there had been any complaints regarding the aeroplanes supplied to Mesopotamia. General Maude stated that he would like certain additions to the aeronautical equipment of his forces and his wishes were met.

#### KEW BULLETIN.

LONDON, June 28th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Prothero stated that the suspension of the publication of the Kew bulletin was being considered. He hoped it might be possible to resume the publication.

#### AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

PEKING, June 28th.

The President has accepted a number of Chang Hsun's demands, including the reorganization of the Cabinet with a reduction of powers. The President is drafting the Constitution, and there will be a re-election of Parliament with reduced membership. Consequently, the Commanding Generals of Chihli, Shan-sung, Fengtien and Honan have agreed to withdraw their troops and to cancel their declarations of independence.

#### OBITUARY.

LONDON, June 28th.

The death is announced of Brigadier G. E. Holland.

#### SIR GEORGE BIRDWOOD.

LONDON, June 28th.

The death is announced of Sir George Christopher Molesworth Birdwood. Death took place suddenly from heart failure.

[The deceased, who was born in Bombay in 1859, was a K.C.I.E., and C.S.I., and was also a Knight of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem. He wrote extensively on Indian matters, many of his books and papers dealing with research work.]

#### BRAZIL REVOKES NEUTRALITY DECREES.

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 28th.

Brazil has revoked the decree of neutrality in the war between the Allies and Germany.

#### NEW ZEALAND'S STATUS.

LONDON, June 28th.

Reuter is informed that the King's representative in New Zealand has been designated Governor-General, instead of Governor. The effect is to emphasise the fact that New Zealand's status is the same as the other Dominions where there are Governed-Generals.

#### RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

PETROGRAD, June 28th.

The Provisional Government has decreed that the Constituent Assembly elections shall take place on September 31st and the meeting will be held on October 13th.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

##### ESPIONAGE.

#### ARRESTS IN DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, June 28th.

Police investigations in a local espionage case have resulted in the arrest of the head of a Copenhagen office as well as two women assistants and three men who were frequent visitors to the office, all German-speaking.

#### GOLD FROM GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, June 28th.

The *Hollandse* states that twelve million florins in gold have been received at the Dutch Bank. It is believed from Germany.

#### POOR GERMAN HARVEST.

ZURICH, June 28th.

The crop reports in the German papers show that the harvest has been unsatisfactory, owing to drought and destructive hail storms.

The Bavarian Ministry of Agriculture has ordered the Fire Brigades to be employed in irrigating.

#### DAYLIGHT SAVING IN AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, June 28th.

The Senate has passed a Daylight Saving Bill which will be applicable to 1918.

#### ITALY AND ALBANIA.

ROME, June 28th.

The Salonika correspondent of the *Messaggero* states that Essad Pasha has protested against an Italian Protectorate over Albania.

#### MORE INTRIGUE.

BRUSSELS, June 28th.

During a debate in the National Council, on the Hoffman affair, an Italian Deputy accused M. Groulich, the Socialist Deputy for Zurich, of visiting Italy with the object of offering money to Italian Socialists to oppose the war.

#### MESOPOTAMIA BLUNDERS.

##### EXPECTED RESIGNATION OF LORD HARDINGE.

LONDON, June 27th.

The *Daily News* Lobby correspondent says that there is a general consensus of political opinion that Lord Hardinge must resign his Foreign Under Secretaryship.

#### ZEPPELIN FURVIVORS.

LONDON, June 28th.

The fact is now disclosed that there are three survivors from the Zeppelin which was destroyed on the 18th inst., including the Commander. The latter was shaken but not injured. When the military reached the burning wreckage from which two others were extricated, it was believed that they were dying, but they have since recovered.

#### ALLIED MILITARY CONFERENCE.

ROME, June 27th.

A military conference has been held at the Saint Jean de Maurienne railway station, at which Generals Cadorna, Poch, Ruffice and Perrin were present.

#### FOOD MINISTRY APPOINTMENT.

LONDON, June 28th.

General Wintour, the Director of Army Contracts, has been appointed Permanent Secretary to the Food Ministry.

#### COMPENSATION FOR AIR VICTIMS.

LONDON, June 28th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that the Government would compensate the victims of air raids retrospectively and prospectively.

#### VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

LONDON, June 28th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that so far there were 250,000 National Service volunteers; hence industrial compulsion was not contemplated.

#### MAKING MUNITIONS.

##### AN INTERESTING REVIEW.

LONDON, June 28th.

In the House of Commons, Dr. Addison strikingly reviewed the work of the Ministry of Munitions since it started two years ago. He said it was a stock improvisation gradually leading to the formation of prodigious organisations. He paid a tribute to the courage and unceasing insight of Mr. Lloyd George and the unique and splendid efforts of the men and women of the employers and the employed, in providing an indispensable material to British genius and resource. He pointed out that the munitions work would be valuable industrially in times of peace. At showing the magnitude of the production of explosives, he instanced the fact that Britain's capacity for production, in March, 1917, was four times the capacity in March, 1916, and twenty-eight times the capacity in March, 1915.

With regard to gun ammunition, we have reached such a state of production that we have been able to divert some factories to assisting other branches. He mentioned that a large quantity of a new kind of explosive had proved most valuable in facilitating the Spring offensive and in the saving of life. A reserve of field gun ammunition had been provided, and arrangements were now working so smoothly that, despite the enormous expenditure of ammunition at the front, the stock of filled shells had only decreased by seven per cent. after three and a half weeks of the offensive.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig was most enthusiastic regarding the quality of the ammunition. The output of machine guns and rifles was fully equal to the demand.

Regarding the supply of railway material for the Army, he said that railway lines were pulled up at Home and that India, Australia and Canada had also contributed. The Government of Canada held a meeting and, within forty-eight hours, arranged, if necessary, to pull up eight thousand miles of railway and ship it complete. Altogether, over two thousand miles of track had already been supplied and locomotives considerably over a thousand. Supplies of new and improved tanks were coming forward excellently. He hinted at new developments in that connection.

Dealing with the overseas transport, he said that we were interested in nearly a million and a half tons of shipments monthly. Nevertheless, since the beginning of unrestricted submarine warfare, the heaviest loss of any single shell component shipped from America was under six per cent. He mentioned that Sir Frederick Black had visited India in order to assist the production of munitions there. The Government was most grateful that the valuable suggestions that Sir Frederick Black had made would have good results. He also mentioned the Inter-Allied Bureau, established in London, in order to pool the Allies' requirements in America and avoid competitive buying.

Negotiations were now proceeding with a view to enabling the United States to place their resources more readily and more effectively at the Allies' disposal, and for procuring economy in purchase. The Imperial Munitions Board was now the greatest business organisation in Canada, employing over 300,000 workers. He stated that Britain's output of steel, which was 7,000,000 tons yearly before the war, was now 10,000,000, and he hoped it would be 12,000,000 by the end of 1918. He mentioned that steel plates in Britain cost less than half what they cost in America, and shell steel was 30 per cent. less. We were now producing all the tungsten we needed, besides supplying much to Allies.

#### THE PACIFISTS.

##### SEAMEN REMAIN FIRM.

LONDON, June 28th.

The conference of seafarers has reaffirmed the embargo on Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. Jovett going to Russia, although a telegram sent by Mr. Henderson from Petrograd was read, declaring that the embargo was likely to create difficulties for the provisional Government.

#### GERMANS ESCAPE FROM RUSSIA.

PETROGRAD, June 28th.

The newspapers state that 3,000 German prisoners escaped through Finland during the past month. The Finns did not assist in their recapture.

#### WAR SPEECH BY PREMIER.

LONDON, June 28th.

Mr. Lloyd George is expected to make an important speech when he is given the Freedom of the City of Glasgow on Friday.

#### SILVER.

LONDON, June 27th.

Silver is quoted at 39. There is China and other buying. The market is steady.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

##### GERMAN PRISONERS INCREASED EMPLOYMENT.

LONDON, June 28th.

In the House of Lords, Lord Milner, in making a statement on the agricultural labour arrangements, including 2,700,000 acres of grass land, instructions for the ploughing up of which have been issued, said that war prisoners were being increasingly employed. There were from five to six thousand fresh prisoners due from the front, the greater number of whom would be utilised agriculturally.

Lord Milner's reference in the House of Lords to the employment of war prisoners for agriculture, followed the statement that he had spent days and days in hunting labour. He was able to report substantial progress, and added that chief reliance must be placed in military labour. The military authorities were most sympathetic and had voluntarily released forty thousand men kept far Home Defence for the Spring operations, and seventeen thousand for the harvest. But this was insufficient for the Government's big programme. An absolute order had now been issued that more men engaged in agriculture should be recruited, except with the consent of the Agricultural Committee. Soldiers now on the land, who would have been recalled to the colours on July 25th, would not be recalled unless replaced by men of equal efficiency. These numbered twenty-two thousand and a large additional number would be released weekly between July and September. Altogether between seventy and eighty thousand men have been added to the numbers available for agricultural work. These additions had not solved the labour problem, but they were a great advance and put an entirely new aspect on the matter.

The Duke of Marlborough announced that the Board of Agricultural possessed 828 tractors, of which 136 were English and the remainder American. Eight hundred and thirty motor ploughs had been purchased. It was hoped that several thousand tractors would be available, but their hopes had been somewhat disappointed.

#### BIG P. & O. DEAL.

LONDON, June 27th.

Lord Incheape, presiding at the meeting of the P. & O. Company, which confirmed the arrangements for the acquisition of the Union Company of New Zealand, mentioned that the purchase price of the Company was £3,000,000. Holders of 940,031 shares out of a total of one million had already accepted the P. & O. Company's offer.

#### COMMERCIAL TREATIES.

##### WHAT THE ALLIES ARE DOING.

LONDON, June 27th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the Italian Government had denounced, excepting two, all the Commercial Treaties under which the Italian tariff rates and duty have been fixed. The French have intimated their intention of taking similar action with exception. The British are considering the subject. This action will enable the Government to make new Treaties after the war.

#### WAR BREAD EPIDEMIC?

LONDON, June 28th.

Lord Rhonda is instituting an enquiry into the allegation that an epidemic of internal ailments is due to war bread.

#### CANADIAN STRIKE AT AN END.

CALGARY, June 27th.

The strike of eighty thousand colliers in Western Canada, which has been progressing since April, has ended. The Government Commissioner has ordered an immediate resumption.

#### THE COTTON CRISIS.

##### BOARD OF CONTROL.

LONDON, June 27th.

The Cotton Conference is private, but an official statement will be issued. It is reported that the Conference decided to form a Board of Control for raw cotton. It is expected that the Liverpool Exchange will re-open on Friday under conditions framed by the Director of the Liverpool Cotton Association, with a view to avoiding all further speculation. A Board of Control will be established immediately and will include representatives of the spinners, manufacturers, importers, distributors and of the principal operative associations, as well as representatives of the Board of Trade.

#### CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGUO SAN PO."]

##### SALT GABELLE.

SHANGHAI, June 28th.

Representatives of the foreign banks have discussed the payment of the surplus of the salt gabelle.

The French and Russian representatives agreed to the payment, but the British and Japanese representatives opposed this.



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## BRITISH TRADE CORPORATION

SIR A. STANLEY'S STATEMENT

When the House of Commons went into Committee of Supply, on May 17th on the vote to complete the sum of £248,923 for the Board of Trade.

Sir A. Stanley, speaking of the British Trade Corporation, said it was to his able predecessor that the credit for initiating this important scheme belonged. In July, 1916, a committee was appointed by the Board of Trade to consider the best means of meeting the needs of British firms after the war as regarded financial facilities for trade. It was a very able representative committee and their conclusions warranted the most careful consideration. The committee reported in favour of a new institution which would afford fuller and wider financial assistance for trade and the development of industries, by co-ordinating many of the existing financial facilities. They commended the work of the existing banks, but they felt there was an imperative need for an institution which would afford wider financial facilities and which would be free from the disability which joint stock bank companies were now under, owing to the fact that they were really required to keep their resources in a more liquid state.

Members knew that the capital of the new undertaking was 10 millions sterling. Of that it was proposed that two and a half millions should be raised before the prospectus could be issued, and it was necessary that one million of capital should be subscribed. The bankers were practically unanimous in support of the proposal, although he could not say that all of them were equally unanimous in agreeing to subscribe the capital. Nevertheless, a number of the larger banks had subscribed the capital, and the million pounds which was necessary in order that this scheme might be launched was now absolutely assured.

### NO MONOPOLY

The Government did not propose to subscribe to the capital of the undertaking, nor to subsidize the corporation in any way whatever. But in Clause 1 of the charter it was proposed that the corporation should act as an agent of the Government, subject always to the Government being entitled to appoint other agents should such a course appear necessary or expedient. He did not believe it could be suggested that either that or any other clause conferred on this corporation anything in the nature of a monopoly, but the Government did believe the corporation would serve a very useful purpose, and would give it its sympathy and support. It did not propose to exercise any direct control over its operations, but certainly if the corporation failed to perform the duties the Government had a right to expect from it, then the Government would be entitled to step in and, if necessary, annul the charter. It had been suggested that the corporation would secure special information from the Government, that it would have some very special privilege which would be denied to other and similar undertakings. That was certainly not the case, and the corporation would not enjoy any special privilege of that kind.

The clause of the deed of settlement, Clause 153, which dealt with remuneration, was as follows:—

"Out of the surplus net profits of such financial year exclusive of any credit balance brought forward remaining after deducting any debit balance brought forward, and providing for bad and doubtful debts and depreciation (including depreciation in securities and investments) as the board may determine, and for excess profits duty or other similar impositions in force for the time being and the dividend above mentioned, but without charging income-tax, the following percentages of such surplus net profits shall be divided between the executive directorate, the managing directors and managers, and the board of directors in such proportions as the board shall determine, namely:—

	Per cent.
Out of such surplus net profits up to £100,000	20
Out of such surplus net profits beyond £100,000 up to £200,000	10
Out of such surplus net profits beyond £200,000	5

The balance of net profits shall be available at the discretion of the board for payment of additional dividend or otherwise as the board may determine.

It had been suggested that the terms of remuneration for the directors were too generous. "But too much of the profits were allocated for the managers, and too little to the shareholders. Perhaps he was not altogether qualified to pass judgment on such a matter. Certainly he confessed the terms did not seem to be excessive. In a corporation of this kind everything depended upon the men who were to carry it on. Men of affairs, men of knowledge and experience, men who could command big incomes, would be necessary if the corporation was to be carried on successfully. He gave an illustration as to how the clause in regard to remuneration would operate. Estimating that the whole of the capital was issued—10 millions—and that the profits were 10 per cent.—that was one million—the shareholders would receive £200,000 of that million, and the board of directors and the whole management £40,000.

To take another illustration: if there was an issued capital of £20,000,000 and a profit of £2,000,000, the shareholders would receive £2,000,000 and the management and directors £200,000.

If there was any criticism of the scheme, he hoped it would be animated by a desire to improve the scheme rather than to prejudice its operation. Those who were acquainted with what banks and similar financial institutions in other countries did to attract trade after the war would agree that there was an absolutely imperative need for a substantial change in the business methods of this country. (Hear, hear.) He had knowledge himself of institutions almost identical with the British Trade Corporation would not interfere in any way with existing banks or banking houses, and would be well advised to work through them. The corporation had come to an agreement with the joint stock banks not to do ordinary banking business, not to open current accounts, and not to take money on long or short notice. He believed the corporation was going to work in complete cooperation and not in competition with existing financial institutions. The credit for the initiation of the scheme lay not with him but with his predecessor in office (Mr. Runciman). All he had to do was to approve the charter and the need of settlement.

### TRADE COMMISSIONS

The Commercial Intelligence Department of the Board of Trade had done good work by the dissemination of intelligence relating to foreign trade and the holding of exhibitions and fairs to obtain for this country many of the trades hitherto monopolized by the Germans in neutral countries. The present Prime Minister had appointed and sent trade commissioners to Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa. They had done such valuable work that it was now proposed to cover the whole of the Empire and steps had been taken to appoint for that purpose 12 trade commissioners at once.

### POST-WAR PROBLEMS

In this opinion, the grave problems which would have to be faced after the war could not be neglected even at a time when the war was still in progress. Steps must be taken in advance to guard against our being unprepared when peace comes. The war had opened our eyes to many things. It afforded an opportunity of reviewing our position, and finding out where we were weak and where we were strong. It had shown us the folly of allowing our enemies to secure complete control over special industries which in time of war were absolutely essential to our success. (Cheers.) The war had opened our eyes to the danger of allowing the pernicious influence of what was known as "peaceful penetration," which had stunted the growth of many enterprises in this country. (Hear, hear.) He was quite certain that hereafter our people would take much greater interest in these problems, and in seeing that the trade and industry of this country were not placed at any unfair disadvantage and that those engaged in those trades were given the right sort of encouragement. Board of Trade committees were engaged in considering many of those problems in touch with other Departments; very able men were unflinchingly and without reward giving their time to the problems; and, in addition, a Reconstruction Committee was dealing with post-war problems. He hoped and believed that out of all these great efforts the trade and industry of this country would be revitalized and that the results would command the admiration and envy of the whole world. (Cheers.)

### THE CHARTER CITED

Sir F. Bantury remarked that it was important that there should be no misconception on the part of the public as to the attitude of the banks towards the new corporation. He believed that very few banks had subscribed towards it. He considered that the clause of the charter under which a proportion of the profits of the corporation, after the payment of a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent., would be paid to the directors and managers in addition to their ordinary remuneration—the proportion being greater if the profits were larger—embodied a very bad principle. (Hear, hear.) It would tend to encourage speculation on the part of the manager and directors in order that they might receive a large proportion of the profits. Having been connected with the City of London for 40 years, he knew of no such undertaking which had such a provision in its articles. The clause was not likely to encourage bad business; and he hoped the House would insist that it should be struck out. (Hear, hear.) There had been one or two institutions in connection with which there had been something of the sort in the form of founders' shares, and the results had been disastrous. Both of the companies which he had in mind—the London and Globe and the Trustee and Executors—had failed, possibly chiefly because the managements were tempted into large speculations by the knowledge that they would get a large share of the profits. If the Government interested themselves in a corporation of this kind, the corporation should be like Cesar's wife, above suspicion and set an example to other corporations.

Sir H. Dabiel regretted that so important a departure was brought before the House of Commons in circumstances in which the clause had no real power. A proposal of this kind ought to have originated in the House, and the authority of the House ought to have been given to the charter before it was granted to any group of financiers in the City.

Mr. Runciman said that when he was at the Board of Trade merchants and traders were constantly calling to complain of being beaten in neutral countries, not on their merits, but because of the superior influences brought to bear in favour of their foreign competitors by the representatives of their Governments abroad, and to insist that it was the duty of the British Government to assist British traders by similar means in extending their operations in those neutral markets. Two years ago he complained in this connection of the too conservative habits of British banking houses and the

managers of those institutions declared they were among the most enterprising gentlemen in the world, and that if they were to display any more of the spirit of adventure they would endanger the stability of their banks. He admitted that the great strength of British banks was due largely to their conservative habits. It was because of these conservative habits that they had been able to stand the strain of the opening months of the war; and it would be because of those conservative habits that after the war they would be as strong as any banking institutions in any country in the world.

The recommendations of the Faringdon Commission were absolutely justifiable. It was on the basis of these recommendations that he had asked Lord Faringdon to invite the opinion of the City. When the opinions of the joint stock banks were obtained it appeared to be clear that there was the greatest trouble in getting them all to act together. Some of the most important banks were in the closest association with those responsible for the scheme, as were also some of the big merchant houses. It would have been better if all had been roped in. But because some of them refused to go in should the Government have declined to equip the merchants of this country in the same way as the merchants of America and Germany were equipped? He challenged the representative of the Government to endorse the view which had been put forward—namely, that the scheme was for the purpose of finance and was not for the benefit of the export trade abroad. (Cheers.) If the right hon. gentleman denied that it was for the benefit of the export trade he would go into the lobby against him. (Cheers.)

Mr. S. Samuel remarked that while the charter conferred great powers and privileges on the new institution it imposed not a single obligation upon the institution to do anything. Instead of merchants being able to look to the Government for support they would have to give to the Foreign Office what would be imparted to their competitors.

Sir J. T. Walters said the proposal filled him with great disquietude. If we were not careful we should be handing over our commercial management to a system of syndicates and bucket-shops. These great businessmen, who were not Parliamentarians, seemed to him to walk into the simplest kind of traps that could be devised; but in this case they were asking the House to walk into the trap. He moved the reduction of the vote by £100,000, and would press it to a division if the Government had not the wisdom to withdraw this scheme for the encouragement of wild-cat speculation. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Sherwell said the scheme had been engineered into existence under cover of the highest patriotism for the profit, convenience, and commercial success of private individuals.

Sir F. Plangney described the establishment of the corporation as a very blundering and mistaken attempt to imitate the German system of promoting "trade abroad."

### MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S INTERVENTION

Mr. Chamberlain expressed regret that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was unable to be present. He recognized the sincerity of the declaration of many of those who had spoken of the case, and without any desire to embarrass the Government, was some misunderstanding, and that there was less difference of substance between the Government and the critics of the charter than the debate would have led one to suppose. It might be that the charter was open to criticism as failing to secure the objects with which the new institution was promoted; but he did not think there was any difference of opinion as to the necessity for the success of British trade after the war that there should be a new financial institution. (An Hon. Member: "A bank.") capable of trading on a scale and of a character and for a period for which none of our existing financial institutions provided.

The main purpose was that the corporation should be formed with the object of assisting the development of British trade and industry. If the corporation were to neglect the main task allotted to them, and take a section which was ancillary to the whole as their sole purpose, there would be very good reason for going to the Court to have it declared that they had failed to perform the objects for which they had received their charter, and that their charter ought to be withdrawn. (An Hon. Member: "That is not in the charter.") It was inherent in any charter. If the charter was abused, the charter had been granted and had passed therefore from the control of the Government. But he was very conscious of the strength and widespread character of the opposition in the House. He could not undertake that the charter should be revised or cancelled. But the feeling that had been expressed in the House must necessarily be taken into account and would be taken into account by the Government. He would report the discussion to the Cabinet, to his right hon. friend the Leader of the House, the President of the Board of Trade, would again look into the matter in the light of the criticisms made. He clearly could give no pledge as to alteration, which would have to be the result of negotiation and agreement. The Government would not ask for the vote, which would be put down on a later occasion, when the discussion could be resumed after full consideration.

Mr. Runciman asked whether steps would be taken to prevent the subscription of capital being advertised operating before the House had a further opportunity of dealing with the subject.

Mr. Chamberlain said he understood the Treasury had not authorized the issue of capital, and would not do so.

## BOBBIE THE TRENCH CANARY

The general public knows little about the most useful and life-saving animal—the trench canary.

He or she, whatever may happen to be his sex, is quite unknown to the infantry. The gunners would scorn so insignificant a mascot. But ask the tunnellers of the Royal Engineers—those human moles whose greatest joy in life is "blowing the Boche"—and they will tell you that the canary has been an invaluable ally in underground warfare.

The trench canary does not flutter in a gilded cage or sing in the scanty sunshine of la Belle France. You will have to climb down a mine shaft or two and scramble through tiny, dark galleries to make his acquaintance.

He is usually to be found in a small wooden cage ensconced with several others of his tribe in a cosy dug-out, beyond the reach of the heaviest bombardment. "One does not hear much singing in the trench canaries' dug-out. They are most of them too busy recovering from gas attacks.

"Cruelty to animals!" a reader mutters over his meatless breakfast. No, not cruelty. The canary is just "doing his bit," the same as everyone else.

Bobbie is the veteran of the canaries in one part of the line. If he were a man he would have many medals, ribbons, and a few decorations. He is Bobbie. He has been gassed seven times.

"Surely the gas doesn't come as far underground as this?" you question. "We don't mean the chlorine which they squirt out of cylinders on the surface," says an Engineer officer who is willing to explain to you. "That's a picnic in these days of gas masks! Besides, you can see it coming rolling along before the wind, and it gives you lots of time. Our gas, known technically as carbon monoxide, is invisible and has no smell. If you happen to get into it, it takes a few seconds only—it's all up."

"But if you can't smell it and can't see it, how do you know it's there?" "That's where the canary comes in," says the officer. "When a mine is exploded, whether by Fritz or ourselves, gas is given off. It may find its way into our galleries or it may not. You have your anti-gas apparatus all ready, and grab Bobbie's cage or that of any other canary in whom you have confidence. You keep the cage well in front of you and high up, and push on, watching Bobbie as you would a rival for a lady's affection. Bobbie knows what to do; you can trust him. He sniffs like a dog on a strange scent. If there's gas, down goes the canary flat on his back, toes up in the air."

"I suppose you miners get plenty of honour and glory?" you ask. "M.C.s galore and few D.S.O.s, but I don't know of a tunneller having got the V.C. yet," replies the veteran with the two stars and the ribbon of the Military Cross on his muddy tunic. "But there's someone I know who has certainly earned the V.C., and that's Bobbie, and all his kind is an extra ration of his favourite food."

A MONSTER GUN.  
Although it is against the laws of national defence to write descriptively of guns, Reuter's correspondent in France says he is at liberty to announce the birth in France of a monster which far out-ranges and out-matches anything yet seen on the war front. The information is gleaned from General Malletier, who makes no secret of the terrible destructive properties of this new engine of warfare. Germany's famous 420-mm. fort demolishers have now been surpassed by a 100-mm. that is to say, that the latest death-dealing French production is classed 320-mm., or something approaching a 20-inch gun.

## INDIGESTION.

WHY TOLERATE IT?

Why suffer from indigestion, from pain after eating, acidity, flatulence, headaches, biliousness, dizziness, or constipation? Why? It is a remarkable fact that women especially seem prone to make light of digestive troubles, forgetful of the greater evils which may and do arise therefrom. From the many letters we receive, it is clear that in hundreds of cases, women, yes, and men, too, have endured much needless suffering and well-nigh made ship-wreck of their lives, not because they did not know of a remedy that would relieve or banish their ailments, but simply because they neglected the warnings of their trouble at the outset. Now Mother Seigel's Syrup has been proved by thousands of former sufferers to be the surest means of eradicating Indigestion, Acidity, and Liver Troubles. If therefore you are suffering today, act at once by taking a course of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and put your stomach, liver and bowels into proper working order. For upon the healthful condition of those organs depends your ability to digest food thoroughly and maintain good health. Only when your stomach and liver have been restored to thorough working order can you escape the pains and penalties of indigestion and obtain proper nourishment from your food.

The medicinal extracts and other ingredients in Mother Seigel's Syrup act directly upon the organs of digestion, fooding up and strengthening the stomach, greatly stimulating the action of the liver, and regulating the bowels. In this way, indigestion is banished and the whole system benefits in a remarkable manner.

"To see me twenty years ago and today, you would not think that I am a same woman, enjoying, as I do now, an splendid health. At that time I suffered most severely from Indigestion, which took the form of severe pains in the right through to my back, between my shoulder blades. My cure, from the state I got into was solely through the use of your Mother Seigel's Syrup. Mrs. E. Brain West Town, Bristol, 1 July, 1916.

The debate was interrupted for the motion for the adjournment of the House.



## THE IMPERIAL WAR CABINET A LANDMARK IN OUR CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY.

In the House of Commons last month Mr. Lloyd George, answering an inquiry by Mr. McKenna whether he had a statement to make to the House relating to the Imperial War Cabinet, said: "I think that I ought to report to the House a very important decision that was arrived at as a sequel to the recent meetings of the Imperial War Cabinet. It is desirable that Parliament should be officially and formally acquainted with an event that will constitute a memorable landmark in the constitutional history of the British Empire. The House will remember that in December last His Majesty's Government invited the Prime Ministers or leading statesmen of the Overseas Dominions and of India to attend the sittings both of the Cabinet and of an Imperial War Conference to be held in this country. It is to the former body, which assembled in March and held 14 sittings before separating, that I desire to refer. The British Cabinet became for the time being an Imperial War Cabinet. While it was in session its Overseas members had access to all the information which was at the disposal of His Majesty's Government, and occupied a status of absolute equality with that of the members of the British War Cabinet. It had prolonged discussions on all the most vital aspects of Imperial policy, and came to important decisions in regard to them—decisions which will enable us to prosecute the war with increased unity and vigour, and will be of the greatest value when it comes to the negotiation of peace. (Cheers.)"

**FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS.**  
The conclusions of the Imperial War Cabinet are of necessity secret, but there is one aspect of them which we feel ought to be communicated to the House without delay. The Imperial War Cabinet was unanimous that the new procedure had been of such service not only to all its members but to the Empire that it ought not to be allowed to fall into desuetude. Accordingly at the last session I proposed formally, on behalf of the British Government, that meetings of an Imperial Cabinet should be held annually (cheers), or at any intermediate time when matters of urgent Imperial concern require to be settled, and that the Imperial Cabinet should consist of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and such of his colleagues as deal specially with Imperial affairs, of the Prime Minister of each of the Dominions, or some specially accredited alternate possession of equal authority, and of a representative of the Indian people to be appointed by the Government of India. This proposal met with the cordial approval of the Overseas representatives, and we hope that the holding of an annual Imperial Cabinet to discuss foreign affairs and other aspects of Imperial policy will become an accepted convention of the British Constitution. (Cheers.)

I ought to add that the institution in its present form is extremely elastic. It grows, not by design, but out of the necessities of the war. The essence of it is that the responsible heads of the Governments of the Empire, with those Ministers who are specially entrusted with the conduct of Imperial policy, should meet together at regular intervals to confer about foreign policy and matters connected therewith, and come to decisions in regard to them which, subject to the control of their own Parliaments, they will then severally execute. By this means they will be able to obtain full information about all aspects of Imperial affairs, and to determine by consultation together the policy of the Empire in its most vital aspects, without infringing in any degree the autonomy which its parts at present enjoy. To what constitutional developments this may lead we did not attempt to settle. The whole question of perfecting the mechanism for "continuous consultation" about Imperial and foreign affairs between the "autonomous nations of an Imperial Commonwealth" will be reserved for the consideration of that special conference which will be summoned as soon as possible after the war to readjust the constitutional relations of the Empire. We felt, however, that the experiment of constituting an Imperial Cabinet, in which India was represented, had been so fruitful in better understanding and in unity of purpose and action that it ought to be perpetuated, and we believe that this proposal will commend itself to the judgment of all the nations of the Empire. (Cheers.)

## WAR EXPENDITURE OF U.S.A.

**\$11,000,000 A DAY.**  
Explaining to the Senate last month the reason for asking Congress to supply \$2,450,000,000 of new revenue this year, the Secretary of the Treasury filed a memorandum which showed that the total war bill the United States must meet in the first year will be \$6,019,949,833. This means a daily expenditure of more than \$11,000,000 a day, or about one-third the amount the British Government is now spending, counting the entire debt.

Among the big appropriations listed Secretary McAdoo are the following:

Military, including army, navy, and military academy	\$2,838,210,000
Shipbuilding programme	400,000,000
Armaments	160,000,000
Sanitary civil bill	156,293,301
Permanent appropriations	143,884,830
Emergency fund for the national defence	100,000,000

It is estimated that Germany is spending \$21,000,000 per day, and Austria \$11,000,000.

## "ONE OF THE FOULEST DEEDS IN HISTORY." DEPORTATIONS FROM BELGIUM. U.S. MINISTER'S INDICTMENT.

The following dispatch from Mr. Brand Whitlock, United States Minister to Belgium, which was written in January last, has been issued for publication by the United States Department of State:

In order to understand the situation fully it is necessary to go back to the autumn of 1914. At the time we were organizing the relief work, the Comité National, the Belgian relief organization that collaborated with the Commission for Relief in Belgium—proposed an arrangement by which the Belgian Government should pay to its own employees left in Belgium, and other unemployed men besides, the wages they had been accustomed to receive. The Belgians wished to do this both for humanitarian and patriotic purposes; they wished to provide the unemployed with the means of livelihood and at the same time to prevent their working for the Germans. The policy was adopted, and has been continued in practice, and on the rolls of the Comité National have been borne the names of hundreds of thousands—some 700,000 I believe—of idle men receiving this dole, distributed through the communes.

The presence of these unemployed, however, was a constant temptation to German cupidity. Many times they sought to obtain the lists of the *chômeurs*, but were always foiled by the claim that under the guarantee covering the relief work, the records of the Comité National and its various sub-organizations were inviolable. Rather than risk any interruption of the *racontement*, for which, while loath to own any obligation to America, the Germans have always been grateful, since it has had the effect of keeping the population calm, the authorities never pressed the point, other than with the *Reichsmarschall* of the Communes. Finally, however, the military party, always brutal and with an astounding ignorance of public opinion and of moral sentiment, determined to put these idle men to work.

In August, von Hindenburg was appointed to the supreme command. He is said to have criticized von Bismarck's policy as too mild; there was a quarrel. Von Bismarck went to Berlin to protest, threatened to resign, but did not. He returned, and a German official here said that Belgium would now be subjected to a more terrible régime, would learn what war was. The prophecy has been vindicated.

The deportations began in October in the Etape, at Ghent, and at Bruges. The policy spread; the rich industrial districts of Hainaut, the mines, and steel works about Charleroi were next attacked, now they are seizing men in Brabant, even in Brussels, despite some indications, and even predictions of the civil authorities, that the policy was about to be abandoned.

## DEPORTATIONS FROM BRUSSELS.

During the last fortnight men have been impressed here in Brussels, but their seizures here are made evidently with much greater care than in the provinces, with more regard for the appearance. There was no public announcement of the intention to deport, but suddenly about 10 days ago, certain men in towns, whose names are on the list of *chômeurs*, received summons notifying them to report at one of the railway stations on a given day; penalties were fixed for failure to respond to the summons, and there was printed on the card an offer of employment by the German Government either in Germany or Belgium.

On the first day, out of about 1,500 men ordered to present themselves at the Gare du Midi about 300 responded. These were examined by German physicians and 300 were taken. There was no disorder, a large force of mounted Uhlans keeping back the crowds and barring access to the station to all but those who had been summoned to appear. The Commission for Relief in Belgium had secured permission to give to each deported man a loaf of bread, and some of the communes provided warm clothing for those who had none, and in addition a small financial allowance.

As by one of the ironies of life the winter has been more excessively cold than Belgium has ever known it, and, while many of those who presented themselves were adequately protected against the cold, many of them were without overcoats. The men shivering from cold and fear, the parting from weeping wives and children, the barriers of brutal Uhlans, all this made the scene a pitiable and distressing one.

The rage, the terror, and despair excited by this measure all over Belgium were beyond anything we had witnessed since the day the Germans poured into Brussels. The delegates of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, returning to Brussels, told the most distressing stories of the scenes of cruelty and sorrow attending the seizures. And daily, hourly almost, since that time appalling stories have been related by Belgians coming to the Legation.

The well-known tendency of sensational reports to exaggerate themselves, especially in time of war, and in a situation like that existing here, with no newspapers to serve as a daily clearing-house for all the rumours that are as avidly believed as they are eagerly repeated, should, of course, be considered, but even if a modicum of all that is told is true, there still remains enough to stamp this deed as one of the foulest that history records.

## CORROBORATION FROM ALL PARTS.

I am constantly in receipt of reports from all over Belgium that tend to bear out the stories one constantly hears of brutality and cruelty. A number of men sent back to Mons are said to be in a dying condition, many of them tubercular. At Antwerp and at Antwerp returned men have died, their friends asserting that they have been victims of neglect and cruelty, of cold, of exposure, of hunger.

I have had requests from the burgomasters of 10 communes from La Louvière, asking that permission be obtained to send to the deported men in Germany packages of food similar to those that are being sent to prisoners of war. Thus far the German authorities have refused to permit this except in special instances, and returning Belgians claim that even when such packages are received they are used by the camp authorities only as another means of coercing them to sign the agreements to work.

## "CRUSADE OF MERCY." IMPRESSIVE RED CROSS SERVICE IN THE ABBEY.

High and deserved honour was paid to the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem last month at the service in Westminster Abbey. The suggestion that the Ascension Day Evensong should be made a "festival service" for these two societies, in thanksgiving for the work they have done for sick, wounded, and prisoners during the war, was due to the Dean of Westminster, Bishop Ryle, and the form of the service included special features which Westminster Abbey seldom admits.

Queen Alexandra, who is President of the British Red Cross Society, occupied the easternmost choir stall on the south side. With her were the Princess Royal, Princess Victoria, and Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein. Behind them, in the stall next to that of the Dean, sat the Duke of Connaught, Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and on the opposite side to them were King Manoel and Queen Augusta Victoria and Queen Alexandra. The Prime Minister, accompanied by the last moment from attending. There was a crowded and (for these dark days) a picturesque congregation, comprising wounded soldiers and Red Cross workers (nearly all women) from all parts of the country, whose dark-blue uniforms, badges, and hat-ribbons were to be seen on all sides.

While the congregation assembled, Sir Frederick Bridge and the drummer and trumpeters in his organ-loft played his own Elegy, founded on "Towers of the Forest," and composed by "Marche Solenne." The service was that of the usual Evensong, beginning with the Lord's Prayer, that follows the Absolution, and including the lessons and psalms proper to Ascension Day. The first part of the service was chanted by the Prior and the lessons were read by Minor Canon Perkins. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were sung to Macfarren in E flat; and the anthem was Handel's "Let the bright Seraphim," the words of which are founded on some lines in Milton's poem "At a Solemn Music."

## THREE SPECIAL PRAYERS.

The service after the anthem was taken by the Dean. Following the prayer for the Royal Family came three special prayers. The first gave thanks for the glad and generous support which the peoples of the Empire had rendered to the Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John for the relief of the wounded and sick in ambulance, train, and hospital, and for the comfort and sustenance of our prisoners. The second prayer, for a blessing upon the innumerable host of fellow-workers in this crusade of mercy; and the third for a continuance of Christ's gracious work of healing, especially in hospitals and ambulances, and for the gift of wisdom and skill, sympathy, tenderness, and patience to all those engaged in the work.

A collection for the funds of the societies was taken during the singing of the hymn "Hail the day that sees Him rise," and when this was finished there came a rare event in Westminster Abbey services—a procession. Led by the organ, and preceded by Sir Frederick Bridge and the trumpeters, the choir and clergy passed under the choir-screen, turned northward, and made the complete circuit of the ambulatory, to enter the choir again under the screen, singing meanwhile the hymn, "For all the saints." It is hard to say whether eye or ear received the nobler impression. The scarlet cassocks of the Abbey choir and the robes of the clergy glowed against the background of ancient grey stone. As the choir drew near or went farther off, passed out of sight behind the high altar, or flowed full up the centre of the choir, the effect of the music, voices, organ, and trumpets was august and beautiful. Finally another rare event in Westminster Abbey—both choir and clergy were massed in the sacristy east of the altar-rails and high above the congregation.

The Dean said the prayer for victory, and another, and before he pronounced the Blessing, the choir sang, unaccompanied, the anthem which Sir Frederick Bridge has composed on the lines spoken by Shakespeare's saintly King Henry V.

God's goodness hath been great to thee. I'll never day nor night unhalloved pass. But still remember what the Lord hath done.

Then all present sang a verse of the National Anthem, and to the music of Mendelssohn's March from *Altkalke* the congregation dispersed.

packages of food similar to those that are being sent to prisoners of war. Thus far the German authorities have refused to permit this except in special instances, and returning Belgians claim that even when such packages are received they are used by the camp authorities only as another means of coercing them to sign the agreements to work.

It is said that, in spite of the liberal salary promised those who would sign voluntarily, no money has as yet been received in Belgium from workmen in Germany.

One interesting result of the deportations remains to be noted, a result that once more places in relief the German capacity for blundering, almost as great as the German capacity for cruelty.

They have dealt a mortal blow to any prospect they may ever have had of being tolerated by the population of Flanders, in tearing away from nearly every humble home in the land a husband and a father or a son and brother, they have lighted a fire of hatred which will never go out; they have brought home to every heart in the land, in a way that will impress its horror indelibly on the memory of three generations, a realization of what German methods mean, now as with the early atrocities in the heat of passion and the first lust of war, but by one of those deeds that make the despair of the future of the human race a deed coldly planned, atrociously matured, and deliberately and systematically executed, a deed so cruel that German soldiers are said to have wept in execution, and so monstrous that even German officers are now said to be ashamed.

## SEELIGMANN-SELWYN. STORM AT HIS SALE.

There were extraordinary scenes at the Tokenhouse-yard auction mart in London recently when by order of the Public Trustee, the London Emery Work Company, Ltd., a German business, was offered for sale, together with its naturalised director, Emil Seeligmann or Selwyn, a man of German origin.

For three quarters of an hour the room rang with protests against the sale of this "live-stock." Many of the business men, who came from all parts of the country, discovered for the first time in the auction room that Seeligmann (or Selwyn) was, by the articles of association, a director for life with a salary of £1,250 a year. The position and salary were assumed by him when he turned this enemy business into a British limited-liability company on September 9th, 1914, one month after the declaration of war.

Mr. Palmer of Messrs. Coward & Paley, solicitor to the Public Trustee, attempted to quell the storm by an offer to indemnify the purchaser against any action taken by Seeligmann (or Selwyn). This offer was repudiated as worthless by the business men.

After many protests Mr. Horsey, of Messrs. Buller, Horsey, Sons & Cassell, the auctioneers, asked for bids. Not a man in the room would bid. Mr. Horsey then announced that there was no sale amid general cheers.

Mr. Horsey began the sale by describing the property and assets of the company, which was established as a branch of the great German Emery Trust in the year 1900 by Emil Seeligmann. He then came to "another little point," the liability of the purchaser to pay Seeligmann-Selwyn a salary of £1,250.

"To provide for any liability," said Mr. Horsey, "in respect of Mr. Selwyn's engagement."

"Ah!" said the Room, "what is it?"

"£1,250 a year."

"For life!" ejaculated a business man.

"What age is he?" asked another.

"Yes," said Mr. Horsey, smiling, "he is to get it for life, whether he works or not. But the articles of association can be altered and Mr. Selwyn can be dismissed."

"And he can bring an action," said a would-be purchaser. "Then we are buying a law suit!" said another.

Mr. Arnold Goodwin, "son of an engineering firm," I am British, I object to this historic room being turned into a slave market. We are not going to buy human flesh.

Mr. Horsey: I am offering the property.

Mr. Goodwin: I don't want to buy the man; you have no right to offer him for sale.

Mr. Horsey: We assume that the purchaser will not require Mr. Selwyn and that he will be dismissed. He may or may not bring an action. In any case the vendor will stand it up to the full amount of the purchase price. We don't look upon him as a liability.

HIDDEN HAND.

At this moment one of the uniformed attendants created a diversion by entering the room and asking with an innocent air, "Is Mr. Selwyn here? He is wanted on the phone."

There was no response, and Mr. Palmer, the solicitor, began to explain the offer of the Public Trustee to indemnify a purchaser against any action brought by Seeligmann-Selwyn. "If his position as a director is determined within six weeks."

The Room barred Mr. Palmer with questions:—

"Why was not this put in the original conditions?"

"Who is shielding this man?"

"How old is he?" "About 55," was the answer to the last question. "About 45," said the Room.

Mr. Thomas Miller Jones, of the Invicta Mills, then asked an important question: "Will you give an undertaking that he will not take the workmen away with him? He has made that statement this week."

The storm broke out afresh:—

"Couldn't you clear the ship by removing Mr. Selwyn?"

"Is he in the room?"

"Will he come into the box?"

"You can't call that an indemnity. How about costs?"

"How much do you want for the risk?"

"Will you take £5 for it?"

"Is this a live-stock sale?"

"Why don't you adjourn this auction?"

"Why don't you wind up the company and sell it clear of Seeligmann?"

Mr. Palmer, after consultation with Mr. Horsey and an argument with possible purchasers as to the length of time it might take to get rid of Seeligmann, said: "You can have two months if you like instead of six weeks."

The Room: It's a d— shame. It's a scandalous farce.

Mr. Palmer: We'll make it three months.

The Room: There's some "hidden hand" in this job. You've got to eliminate Selwyn.

Mr. Arnold Goodwin: I can warn you you are in trouble if you sell this property.

Mr. Palmer, in reply to many questions as to who would pay the costs of an action: "Very well, I'll put in the costs."

Mr. Horsey then attempted to secure a bid.

The Room: The Government is offering an act of law suit with this German-born. The Government is supporting this claim.

The question is whether we ought to tolerate this sale. This is a means of assisting a German-born.

The auctioneer was then asked: "Did you not hear this last December? Why was it not put into the particulars?"

Mr. Horsey: We heard of it some little time ago, but were assured that the matter could be arranged by altering the articles of association.

Mr. Goodwin then moved a resolution: "That this action be adjourned subject to the Government clearing this matter."

(Continued at foot of next column.)

## PAINFUL ECZEMA ON BACK OF HAND

Very Disagreeable, Caused Disfigurement, Irritation and Itching.

## HEALED BY CUTICURA

"I had been a great sufferer from a very disagreeable form of Eczema on the back of my right hand. The trouble commenced with a red rash which gradually spread all over the hand between the fingers, causing complete disfigurement, great irritation, itching and considerable pain. After trying of Cuticura Soap and Ointment I decided to get Cuticura. I continued to use them for about a fortnight by which time the irritation and pain had ceased and I was healed." (Signed) J. W. George, 41, Lily St., West Bromwich, Staffs., Eng., July 28, 1916.

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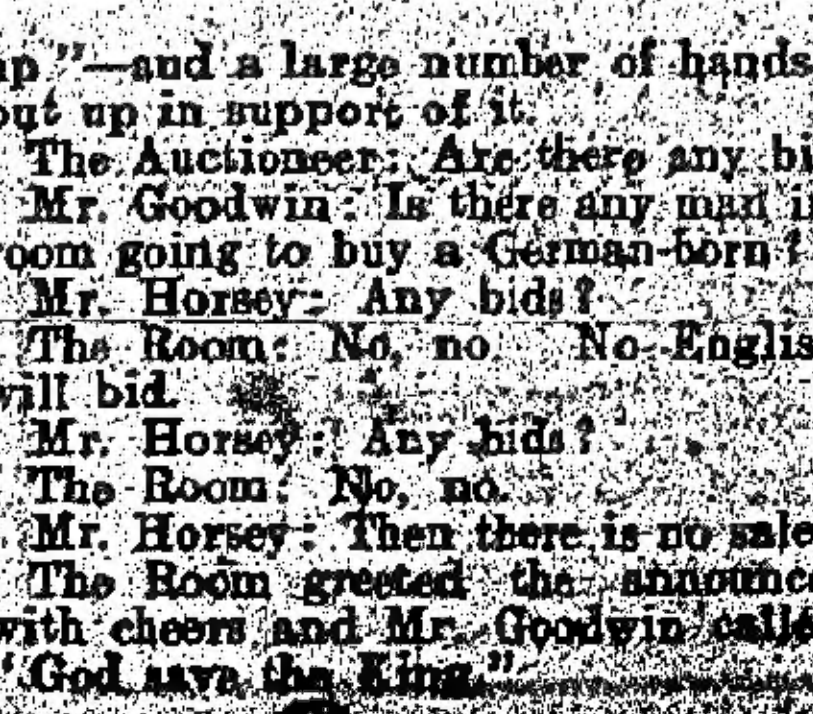
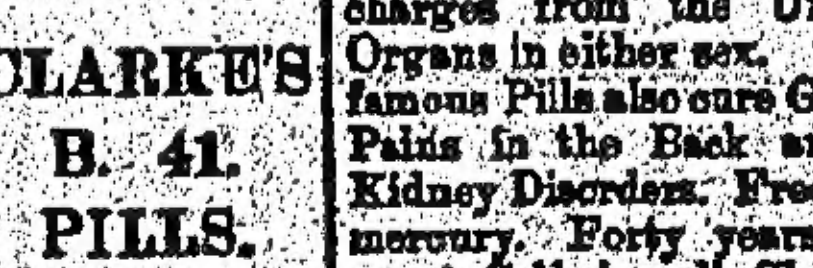
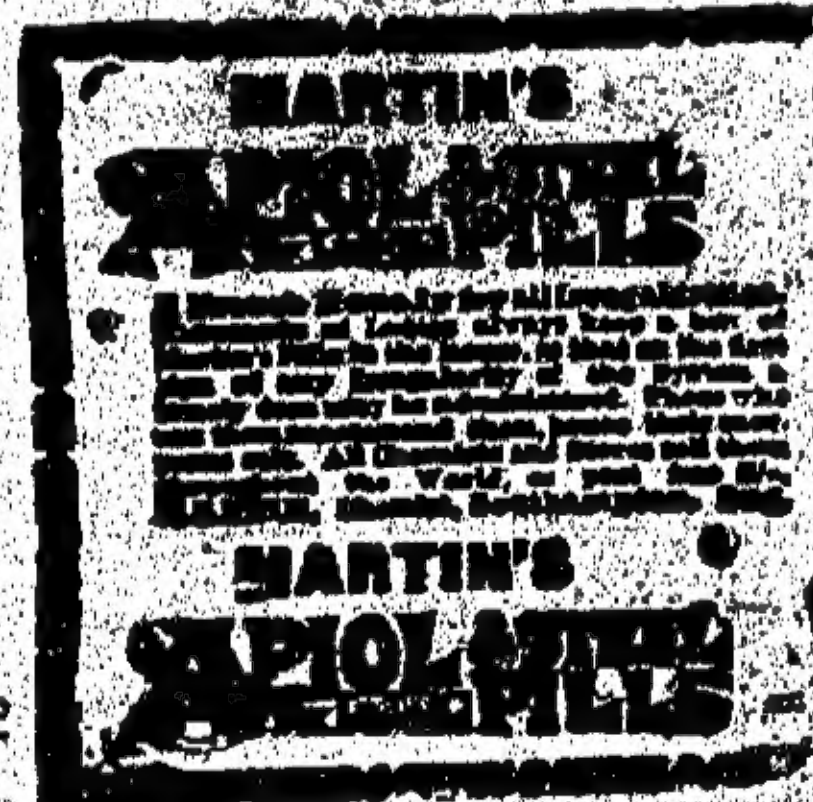
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You desire fine, beautiful hair. Therefore you must treat it kindly—nourish it, preserve it, care for it by regularly using

## ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL

"For Your Hair"

This preparation has been used for over 20 years—it has proved its value time and time again. Do not try any other remedy on your hair—get a bottle of Rowland's Macassar Oil for you or your hair. Also sold in a Golden Scented and Refreshing at all times. 6, Rue, 6, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.1.



## CUTLER PALMER & CO'S NAPIER JOHNSTONE'S

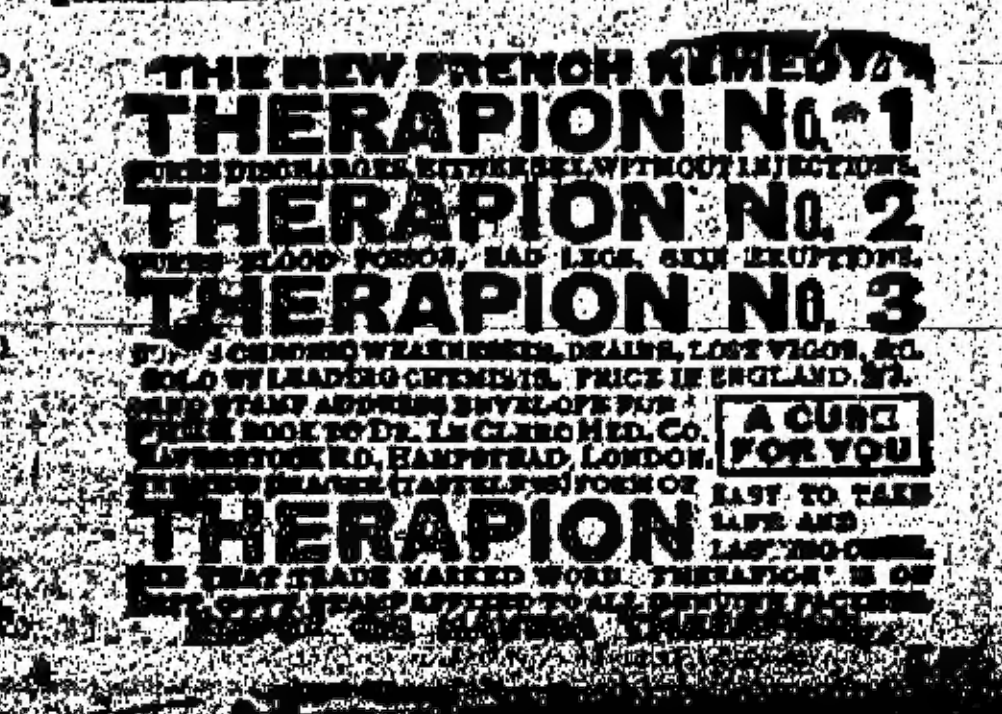


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LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,  
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SOLE AGENTS:  
MITSU BUSSAN KAISHA,  
Tel. No. 230 or 153.









**INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.**

Cargo carried on through Bills of Lading from HONGKONG to BEIRA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN with transshipment at COLOMBO to Steamers of the INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

**ORIENTAL AFRICAN LINE.**

Regular Direct Service from JAPAN, CHINA and STRAITS to BEIRA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN, calling at MAURITIUS en route, and affording the Quickest Freight Transport from the ORIENT to SOUTH AFRICA.

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to apply to the undersigned.

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Sole Agents.

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ELLERMAN & COCKWELL STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.)

JAPAN, CHINA AND STRAITS

TO  
UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Cape of Good Hope at Owners' option.

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General Agents.

**C. N. C. CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.****SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.**

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
AMOI, WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO & TIENTSIN	"HUICHOW"	On 30th June Noon.
SWATOW and SINGAPORE	"LINAN"	On 1st July 10 A.M.
SHANGHAI	"CHENAN"	On 3rd July, 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SINKIANG"	On 5th July, 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"ANHUI"	On 8th July, 11 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"LINGCHOW"	On 15th July, 11 P.M.

**DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER. Twice Weekly.**

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SANTU".

MANILA LINE—TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS. Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amplest Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAILS and CARGO. Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amplest Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, calling en route at Hainan, Formosa and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Whampoa.

For Freight or Passage apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Telephone 36

Agents.

**DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.****HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.**

REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Ocean Steamers having good accommodation for First Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in state-rooms and Saloons and Excellent cuisine.

FOR

**SWATOW, AMOI AND FOOCHOW AND RETURN.**

(Occupying 7 to 10 Days)

"HAIKIAN"	—	Capt. A. E. Hodgins	TUESDAY, 3rd July, at Noon.
"HAIHONG"	—	Capt. J. W. Evans	FRIDAY, 6th July, at Noon.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Elsie Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to—

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.

General Managers.

**BRITISH INDIA S. N. CO., LTD.****APCAR LINE.**

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN

COLOMBO, STRAITS, SHANGHAI AND JAPAN/PORTS.

EASTWARD

WESTWARD

Steamers have excellent Saloon accommodation for Passengers and are fitted with all modern conveniences and carry a fully qualified crew.

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DAVID SASSOON & CO., LTD.

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**P. & O. S. N. CO.****ROYAL MAIL SERVICE**

UNDER CONTRACT WITH HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT TO

**MARSEILLES AND LONDON.**

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO

STRAITS, COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, &c.

Steamers	Leave Hong Kong	Connecting Mail	Due at Marseilles	Due at London
Colombo	Noon	Str. from Colombo	1917	1917

When Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO. Accommodation in the connecting Steamer from COLOMBO is definitely reserved in Hongkong at the time of Booking. On the Australian Route Tickets interchangeable with Orient Line.

SAILINGS DIRECT TO

**SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.**

R.S.

LEAVE HONGKONG ABOUT

Passengers may travel by Railway in Japan between Ports of Call free of charge. Return Tickets are available by Messageries Maritimes Company.

**INTERMEDIATE STEAMERS**

(Non-Transshipment)

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MAIL STEAMERS, WILL LEAVE DIRECT FOR

**MARSEILLES AND LONDON.**

Calling at SINGAPORE, PORT SWETENHAM, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.

CARRYING 1ST AND 2ND SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES. PROPOSED SAILINGS:

STEAMERS	Leave HONG KONG	Leave SINGAPORE	Due at Marseilles	Due at London
	about	about	if sailing about	about
The Intermediate Service is Temporarily Suspended.				

**WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS**

All Cables are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge and each Berth furnished with an Electric Reading Lamp. Round-the-World Tickets and Through Tickets to New York in connection with the Principal Mail Lines.

Return Tickets at fare and a half available to Europe for Two Years or to Intermediate Ports for Six Months. Owing to the War in Europe Steamers and Sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.

**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.**

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or advice.

Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized. No Claims will be admitted, after the goods have left the Godowns.

For Further Information, Passage Fares, Freight, Handbooks, Dates of Sailing, etc., apply to

M. V. D. FAIR,  
Superintendent.

**NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.****THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.**

LONDON VIA SINGAPORE, MALACCA, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGOA BAY,

CAPE TOWN and MADEIRA

VICTORIA, B.C. and SEATTLE	"INABA MARU"	MONDAY, 16th
via KEELUNG, SHANGHAI	Capt. Higo	12,500 July, at Noon.
MOJI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI,	"YOKOHAMA MARU"	WEDNESDAY, 1st
REIMIZU and YOKOHAMA	Capt. Terada	12,500 Aug. at Noon.

SYDNEY and MELBOURNE, via MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, THURSDAY ISLAND

TOWNSVILLE and BRISBANE

COLOMBO via SINGAPORE, PENANG and RANGOON

BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA and COLOMBO

NAGASAKI, KORE and	"SAKI MARU"	FRIDAY, 12th
YOKOHAMA	Capt. Yoshikawa	11,500 July at 11 A.M.
	"ATSUTA MARU"	SATURDAY, 14th
	Capt. Hongo	16,000 July, at 11 A.M.

SHANGHAI, KOBE and	"HITACHI MARU"	WEDNESDAY, 10th
YOKOHAMA	Capt. Terada	12,500 July, at 11 A.M.
	"SIYO MARU"	TUESDAY, 31st
	Capt. Takano	12,500 July, at 11 A.M.

	"CEYLON MARU"	SATURDAY, 14th
	Capt. Terada	16,000 July
	"MOYORI MARU"	MONDAY, 2nd
	Capt. Toki	8,000 July

KOBE	"JINSEN MARU"	TUESDAY, 10th
	Capt. Nagaya	8,000 July

**EASTBOUND NEW YORK LINE**

VIA PANAMA CANAL.

(CARGO ONLY)

NEW YORK via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO, PANAMA and COLON.

For Further Information, apply to—

Telephone 1505, 1502 and 1503

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R. MORT, Manager

**TOYO KISEN KAISHA.****SAN FRANCISCO LINE.**

VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, JAPAN AND HONOLULU

FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
PERSIA MARU	9,000	TUES. 3rd July.
KORU MARU	12,000	TUES. 17th July.
BIBBIA MARU	11,000	FRI. 27th July.
TENYO MARU	28,000	FRI. 10th Aug.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	SATUR. 25th Aug.
SHINYO MARU	24,000	FRI. 7th Sept.

**SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.**

HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO via JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALINO, CRUZ BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA AND IQUIQUE.

THENCE BY TRANS-ANDERSON ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

ANYO MARU	18,500 Tons
KIYO MARU	17,200 "
SEIYO MARU	14,000 "

Tickets are interchangeable with the CANADIAN PACIFIC OCEAN SERVICES, LTD. and the PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO. Passengers may travel by Rail between Ports of Call in Japan free of Charge.

For full information as to rates, sailings, etc., apply to—

T. DAIGO, Agent,  
King's Building.

**MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.****FRENCH MAIL LINES.**

SERVICE TO AND FROM JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI

SERVICE TO AND FROM EUROPE.

Ports of call:—Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, Haiphong, Tourane, Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Djibouti, Suez, Port Said, Marseilles.

**SPECIAL SUMMER RATES TO JAPAN.**

1st Class Return Ticket from 1st June 1917, to 31st October 1917, and interchangeable only with PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL S. N. Co. for return journey. FARES TO KOBE:—\$135.00 TO YOKOHAMA:—\$150.00

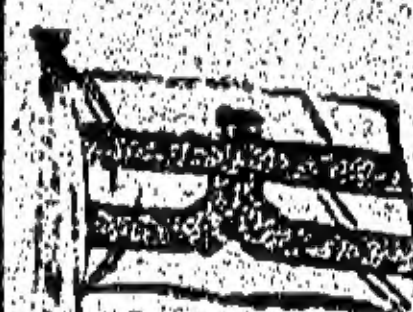
ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Return Tickets to Europe available two years.

Return Tickets to Intermediate Ports available six months.

For full particulars regarding sailings, apply to

P. THOMAS, Agent,  
Queen's Building.

**O. S. K. OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.**

REGULAR SERVICES, PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

**North American Line.**

FOR VICTORIA, SEATTLE AND TACOMA, VIA SHANGHAI, MANILA, NAAGAT, MOJI, KOBE, AND YOKOHAMA.

"MEXICO MARU" ... Leaving June.

"HAWAII MARU" ... Leaving July.

"CANADA MARU" ... Leaving July.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains a regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Puget Sound ports touching at intermediate ports in Japan. Overland cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connections are made at Puget Sound ports with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every three months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Manilla, Durban and Cape Town.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, sailings at Auckland, N. Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

BOMBAY LINE—Fortnightly service for Bombay calling at Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, and Colombo. At present this line's steamers maintain cargo only.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Java ports calling at Manilla, Sandakan and Macassar. Booking for passengers and cargo to the ports.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS REGARDING PASSENGER OR FREIGHT APPLY AT OFFICE.

**FORMOSAN LINE.**

For Tamsui, Keelung and Suifu, Takao, via Swatow and Amoy.

"KAIJO MARU" ... SUNDAY, 1st July, at Noon.

"BOHBU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 2nd July, at 8 A.M.

These Formosan Lineers will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 78 will be in use.

For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to—

M. HIGUCHI, Manager,  
No. 1, Queen's Building.

TEL. Nos. 744 and 745.

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